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المراجع	IOR/R/15/1/504
العنوان	"ملف (D 53 53/32) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت"
التاريخ/ التواريخ	٠٣ سبتمبر ١٩١٢-٠٤ يونيو ١٩٢٨ (ميلادي)
لغة الكتابة	الإنجليزية في اللاتينية
الحجم والشكل	مجلد واحد (٢٤٠ ورقة)
المؤسسة المالكة	المكتبة البريطانية: أوراق خاصة وسجلات من مكتب الهند
حق النشر	<u>غير معروف</u>

حول هذا السجل

يحتوي هذا الملف على مراسلات متعلقة بعدة أمور مختلفة؛ جميعها خاصة بالكويت. يتناول الملف الموضوعات التالية ذات الأهمية الخاصة:

- مراسلات بين السير بيرسي زكريا كوكس المقيم السياسي البريطاني في الخليج العربي وبول وبيبلر فورس هاريسون عضو الإرسالية الأمريكية في نوفمبر ١٩١٢ (صص. ١٦-١٧).
- خريطة أولية لمنطقة جنوب غرب الرياض في أكتوبر ١٩١٣ (ص. ٢٢).
- مراسلات تتعلق برغبة ويليام هنري شكسبير في السفر إلى شبه الجزيرة العربية وتفاصيل رحلته اللاحقة في نوفمبر ١٩١٣-مارس ١٩١٤ (صص. ٢٣-٢٦، ص. ٣٠، صص. ٤٣-٤٦).
- نقاشات بين المسؤولين البريطانيين حول ما إذا كان يجب منح حاكم الكويت لقب "صاحب السمو" أم لا، في مايو-أغسطس ١٩١٤ (ص. ٥٠ و صص. ٥٤-٧٠).

- رسالة من ويليام جورج جراي الوكيل السياسي البريطاني يبحث أسباب استمرار الدعم العربي للإمبراطورية العثمانية في الحرب في يونيو ١٩١٥ (صص. ٨٦-٩٠).
- معلومات بخصوص زيارة الشيخ أحمد الجابر آل صباح إلى لندن في ديسمبر ١٩١٩ (صص. ١٢٥-١٣٦).
- تقرير يتعلق بوقوع هجوم على اثنين من الرعايا الكويتيين وأربعة من نجد، حيث قتل المعتدون خلاله ثلاثة منهم في مارس ١٩٢٥ (ص. ١٦٩). ويتضمن الملف أيضاً قائمة الممتلكات المسروقة من هذه المجموعة (ص. ١٧٠).
- مذكرة إحاطة مفصلة أعدها جيمس كارمايكل مور الوكيل السياسي البريطاني في الكويت، في ديسمبر ١٩٢٧. تتضمن المذكرة نبذة عن عدد من الشخصيات البارزة في الكويت (والمنطقة المحيطة بها) ومعلومات عن المدارس بالدولة والاقتصاد والتجارة بها (صص. ٢١٧-٢٢٦). كما تتضمن المذكرة خريطة للكويت والمناطق المجاورة (ص. ٢٢١) وتفاصيل عن الأنواع المختلفة لسفن الشحن المستخدمة في البلاد مع رسوم يدوية لمختلف أنواع السفن (صص. ٢٢٣-٢٢٦).
- رسالة من ليونيل بيركلي هولت هاوورث، المقيم السياسي البريطاني في الخليج العربي تبحث رغبة بريطانيا في أن تبقى الكويت منفصلة عن العراق وتحديد الأسباب وراء هذه السياسة، في أبريل ١٩٢٨ (صص. ٢٣١-٢٣٢).



"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [أمامي] (٤٨٦/١)



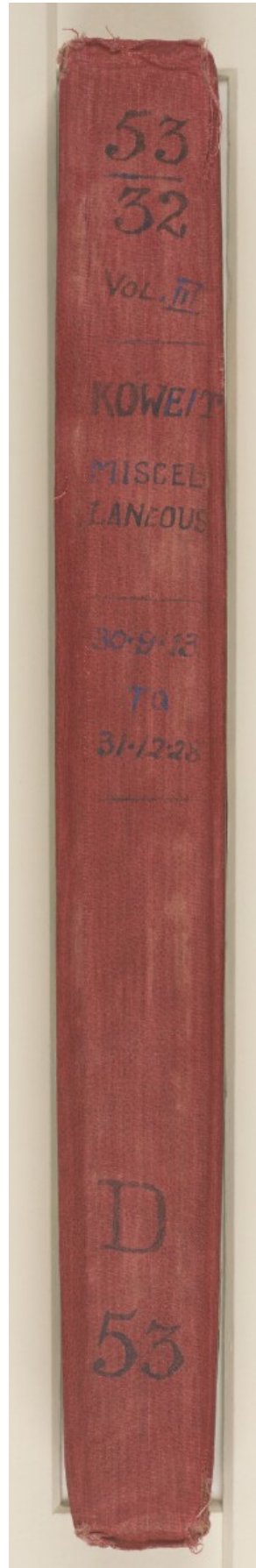


"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [خلفي] (٤٨٦/٢)





"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [صلب] (٤٨٦/٣)





"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [حافة] (٤٨٦/٤)





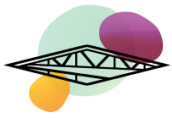
"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [رأس] (٤٨٦/٥)





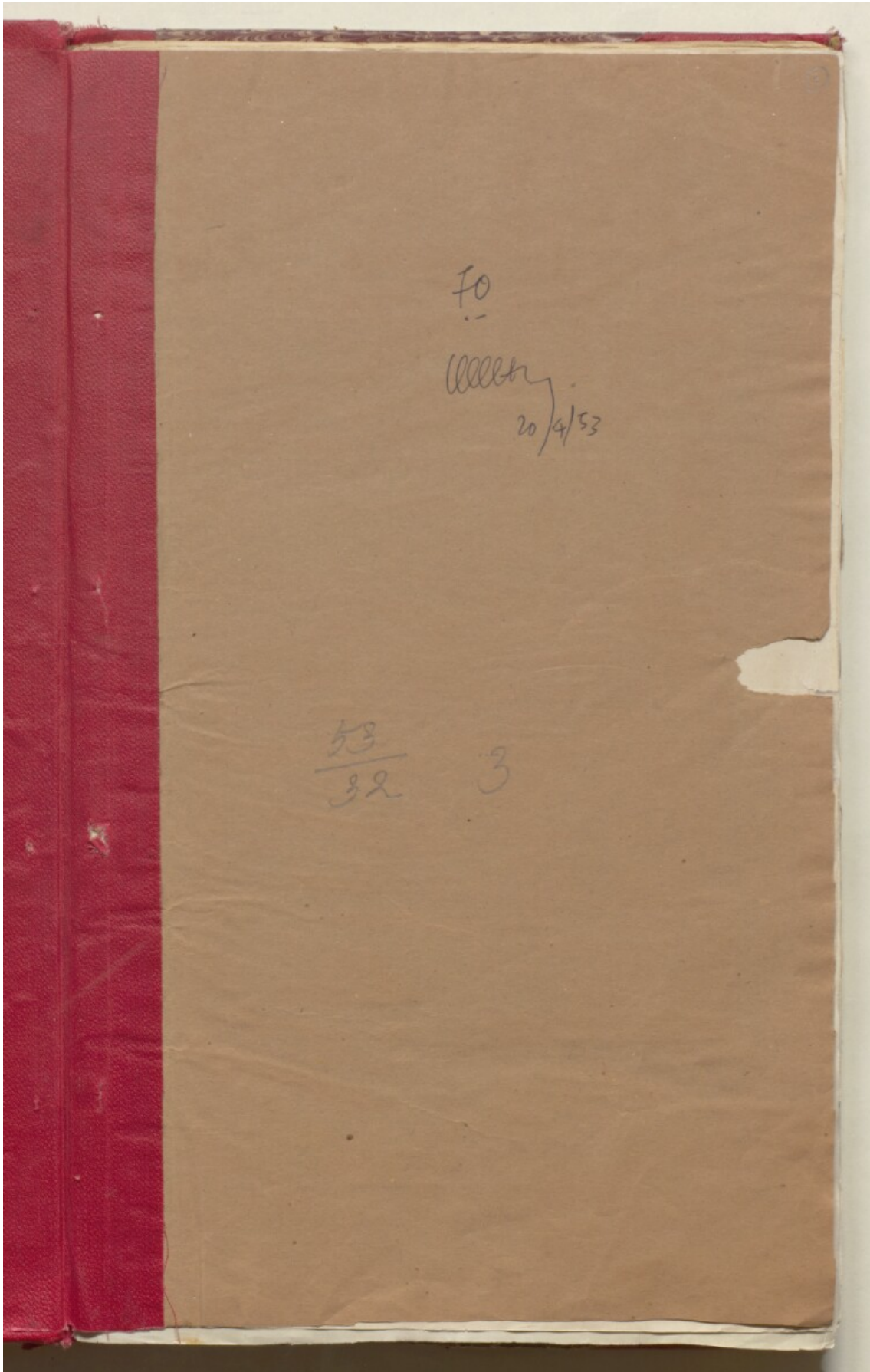
"ملف D 53 53/32 (III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [ذيل] (٤٨٦/٦)

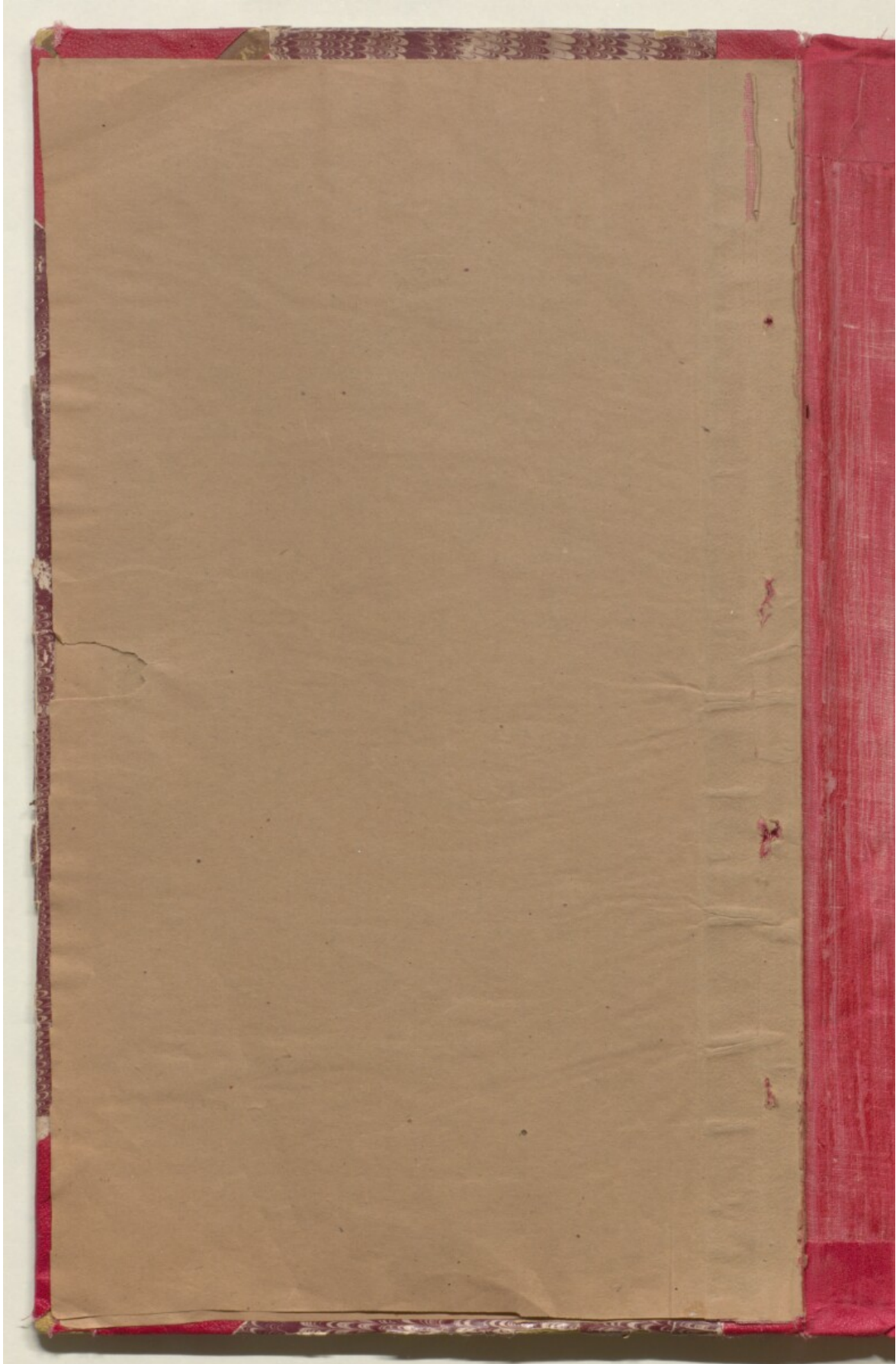


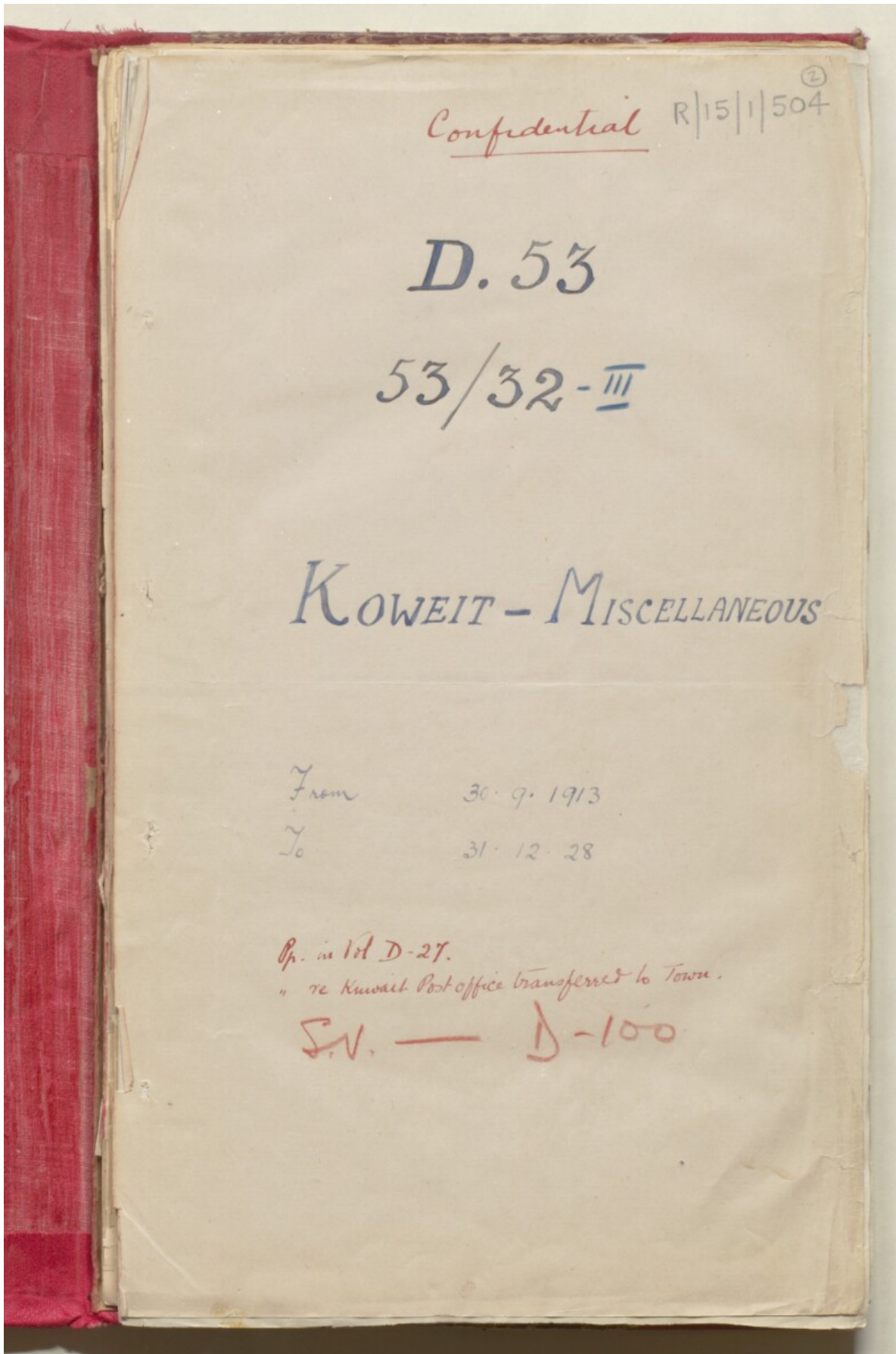


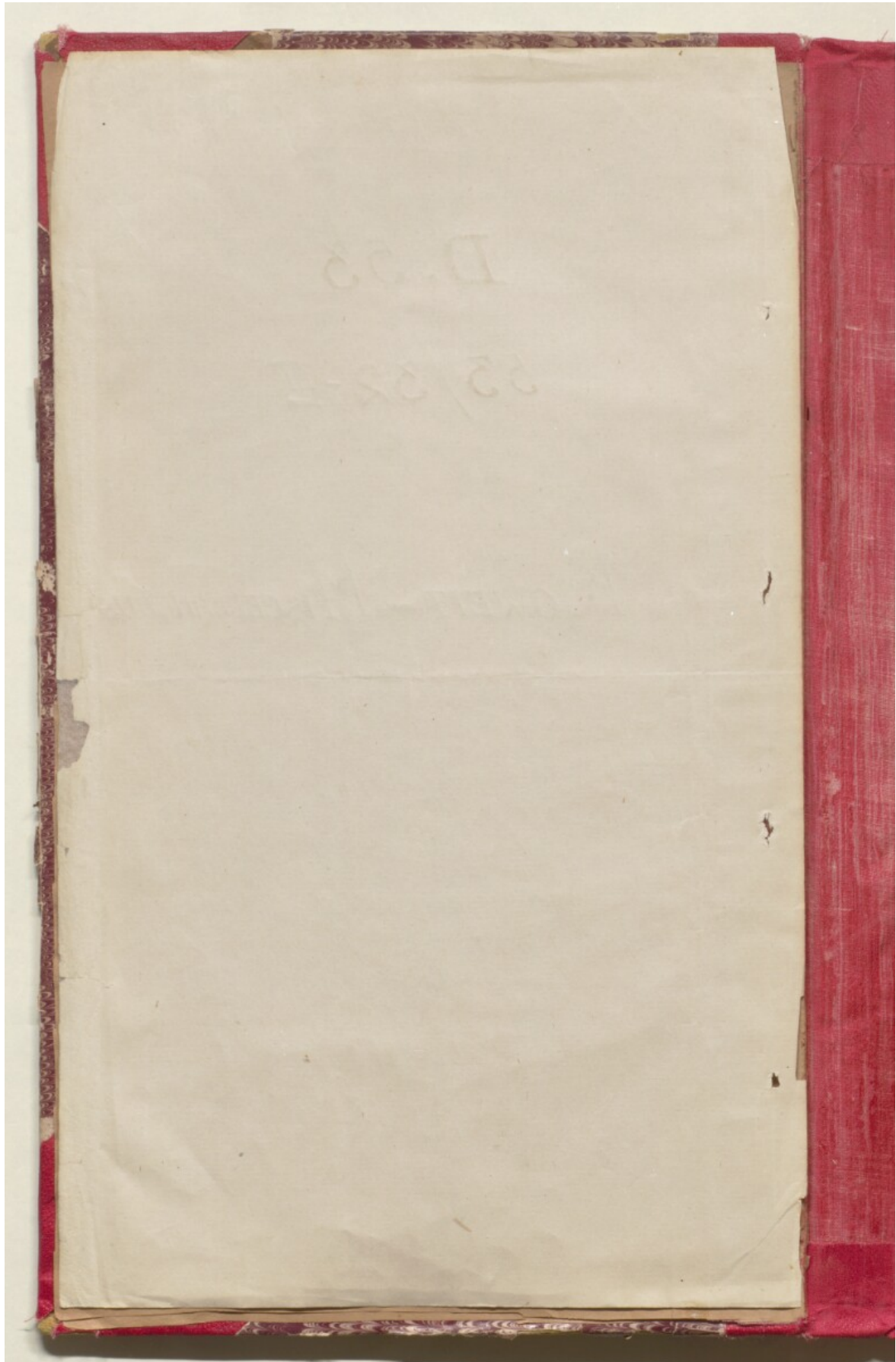
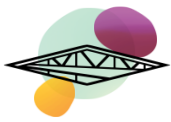


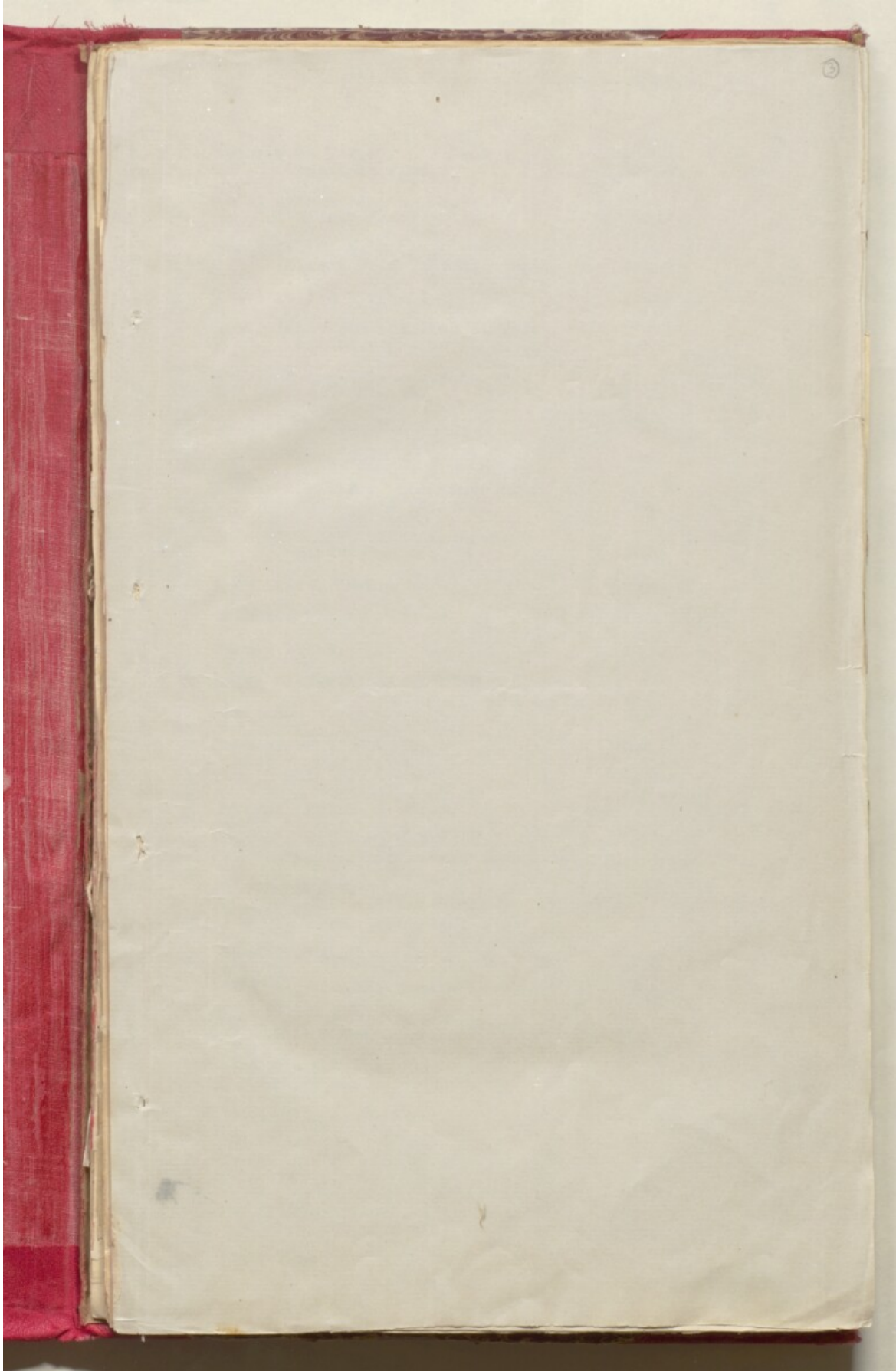
"ملف D 53 53/32 (III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [١و] (٤٨٦/٨)

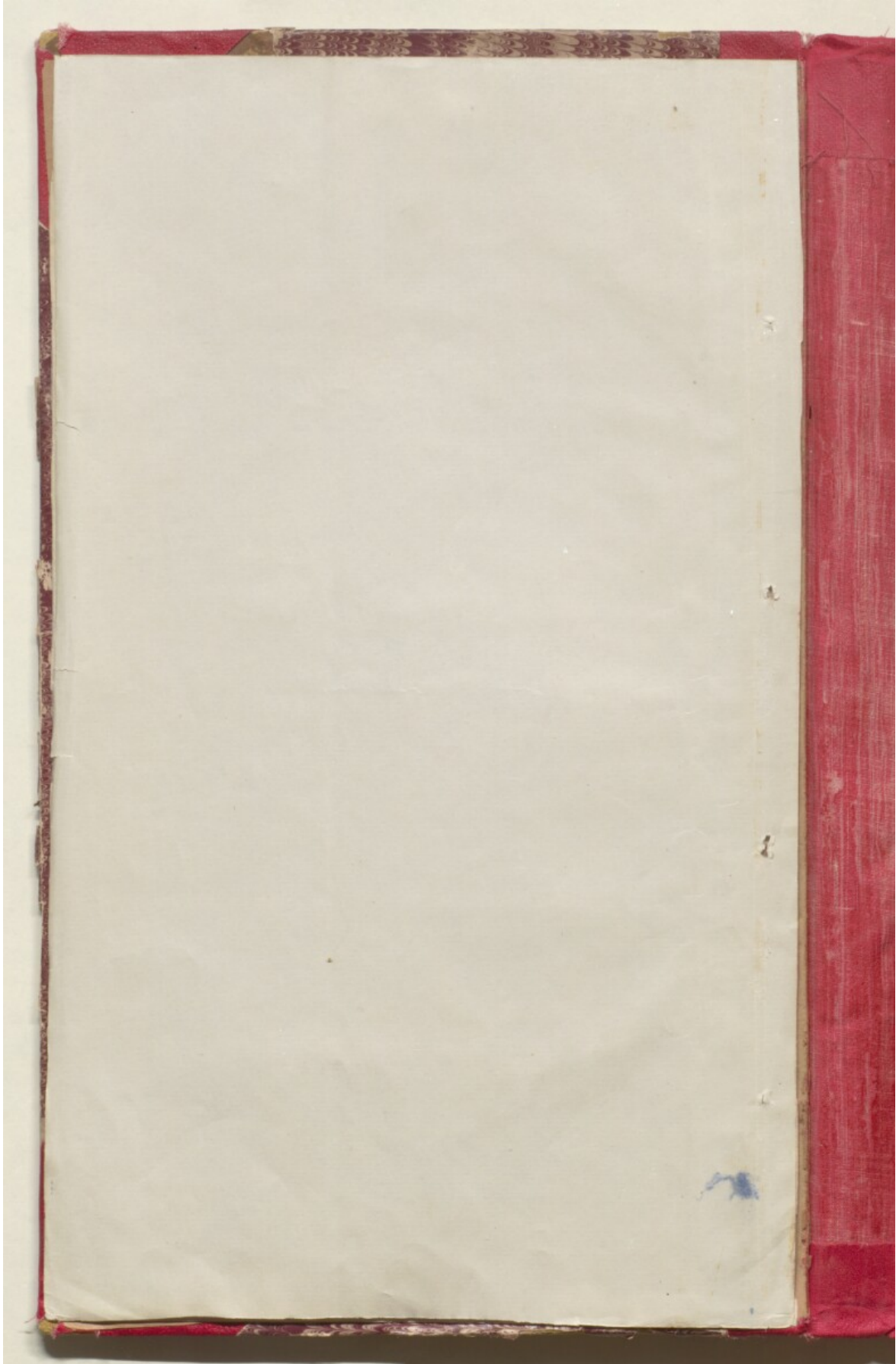


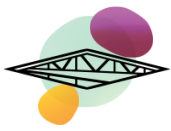




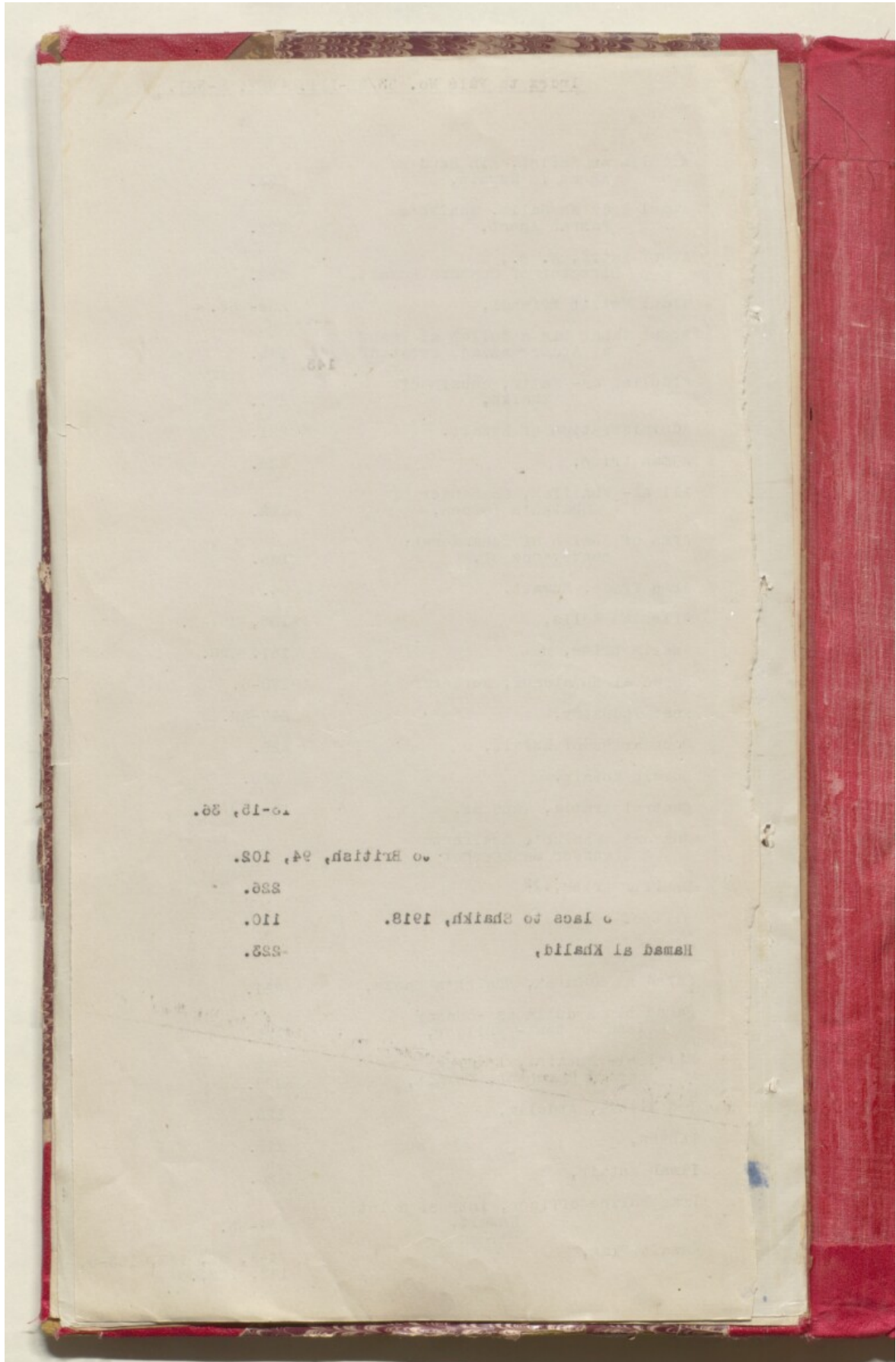






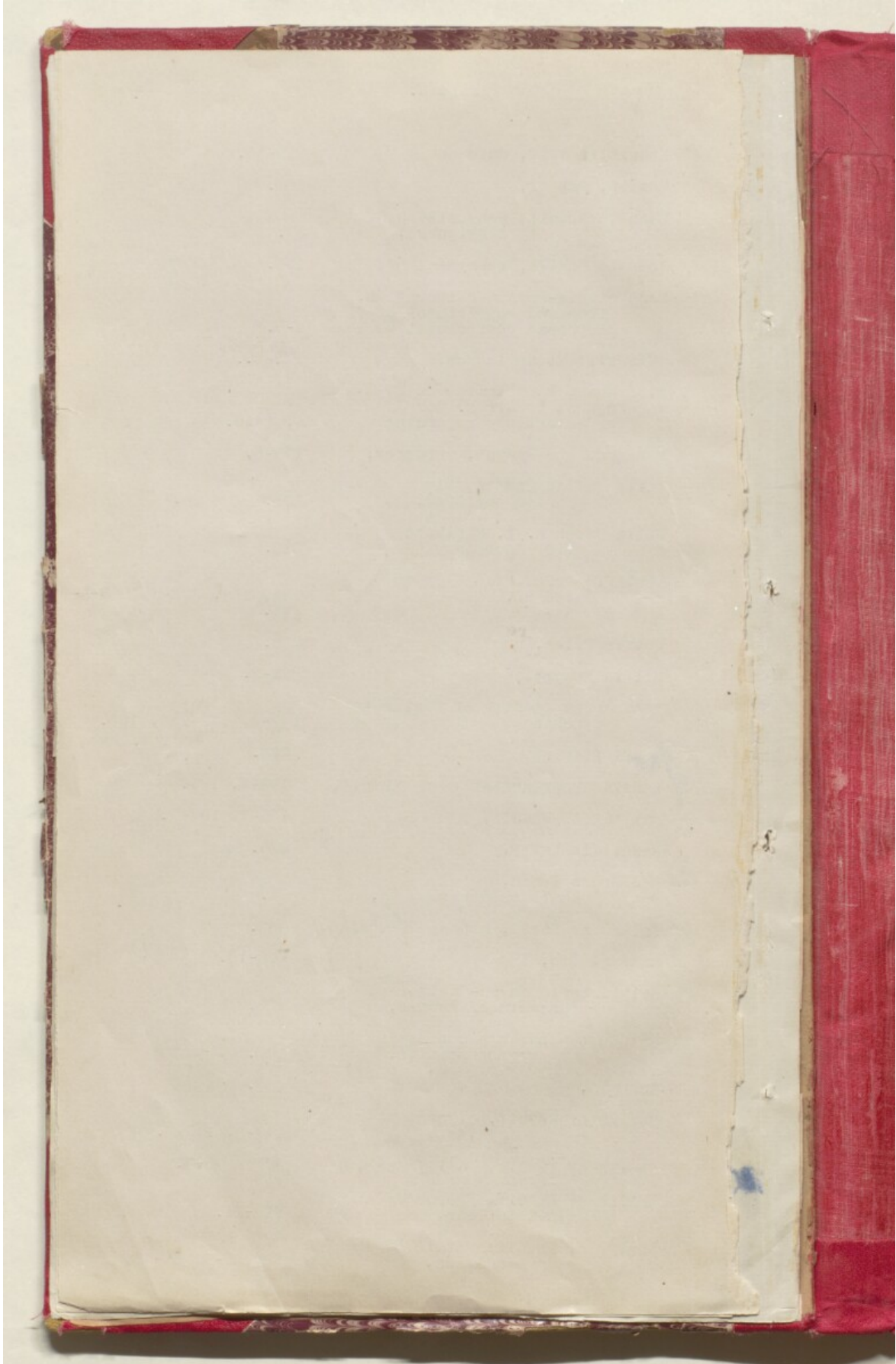


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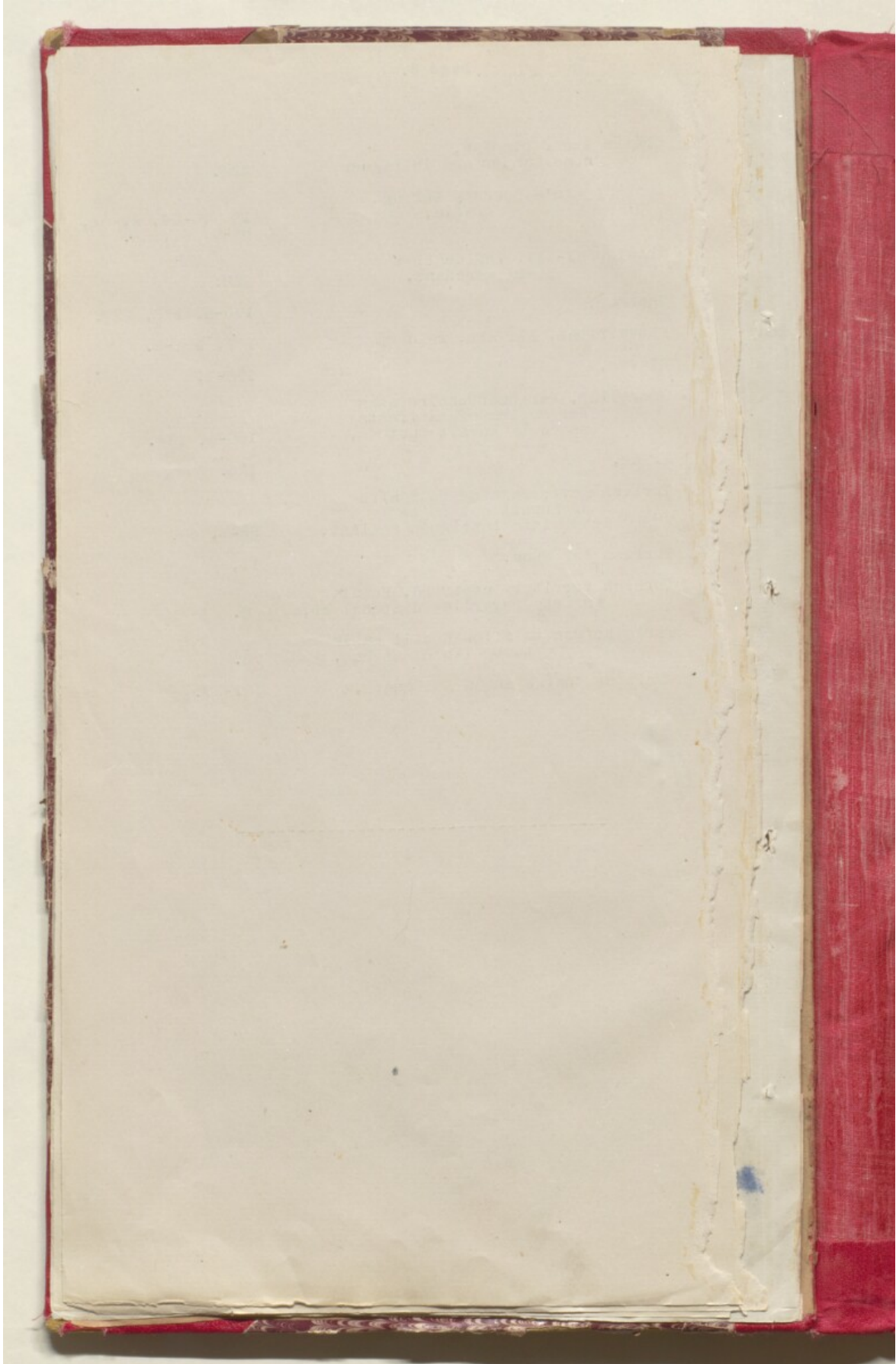
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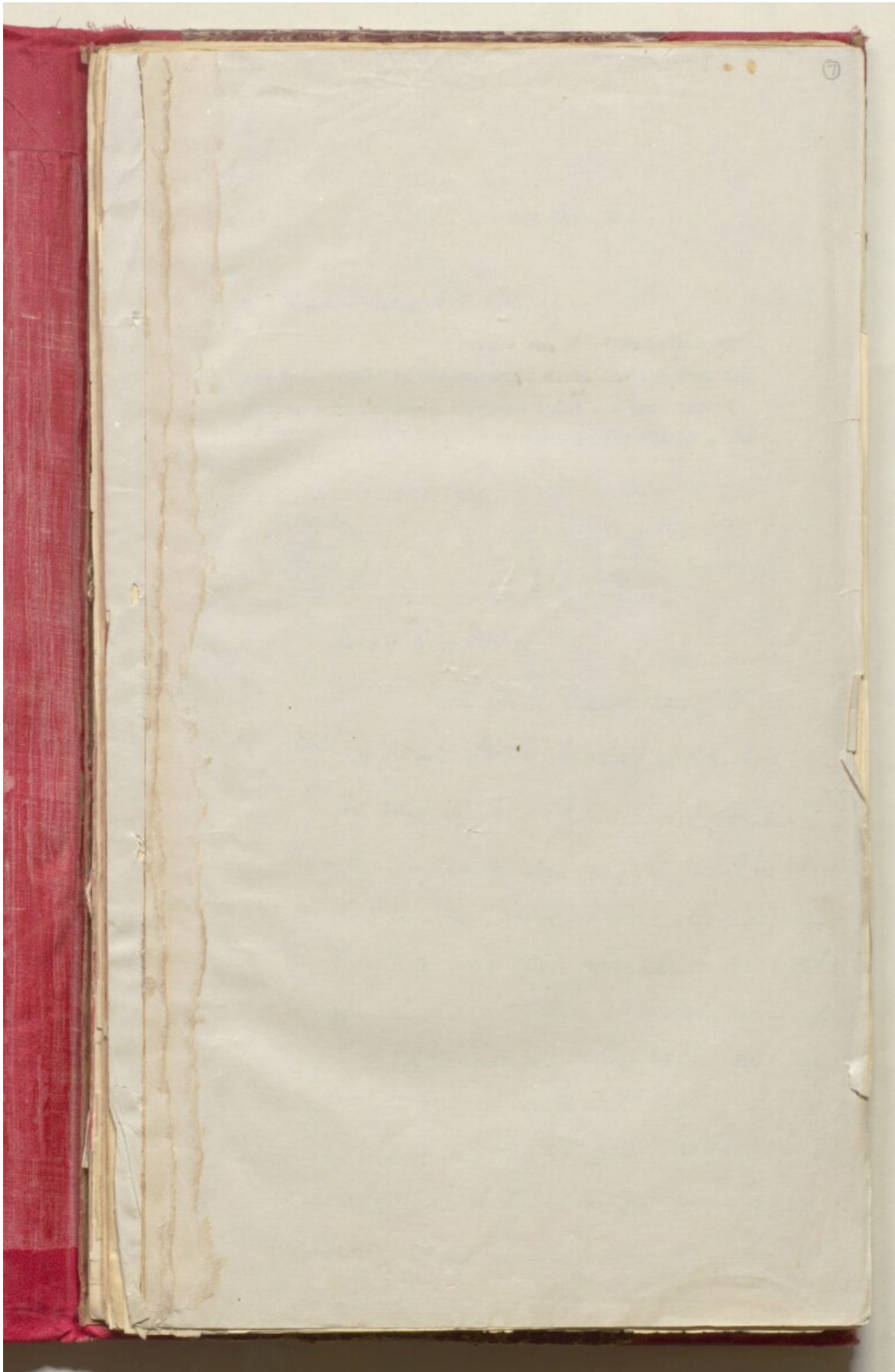


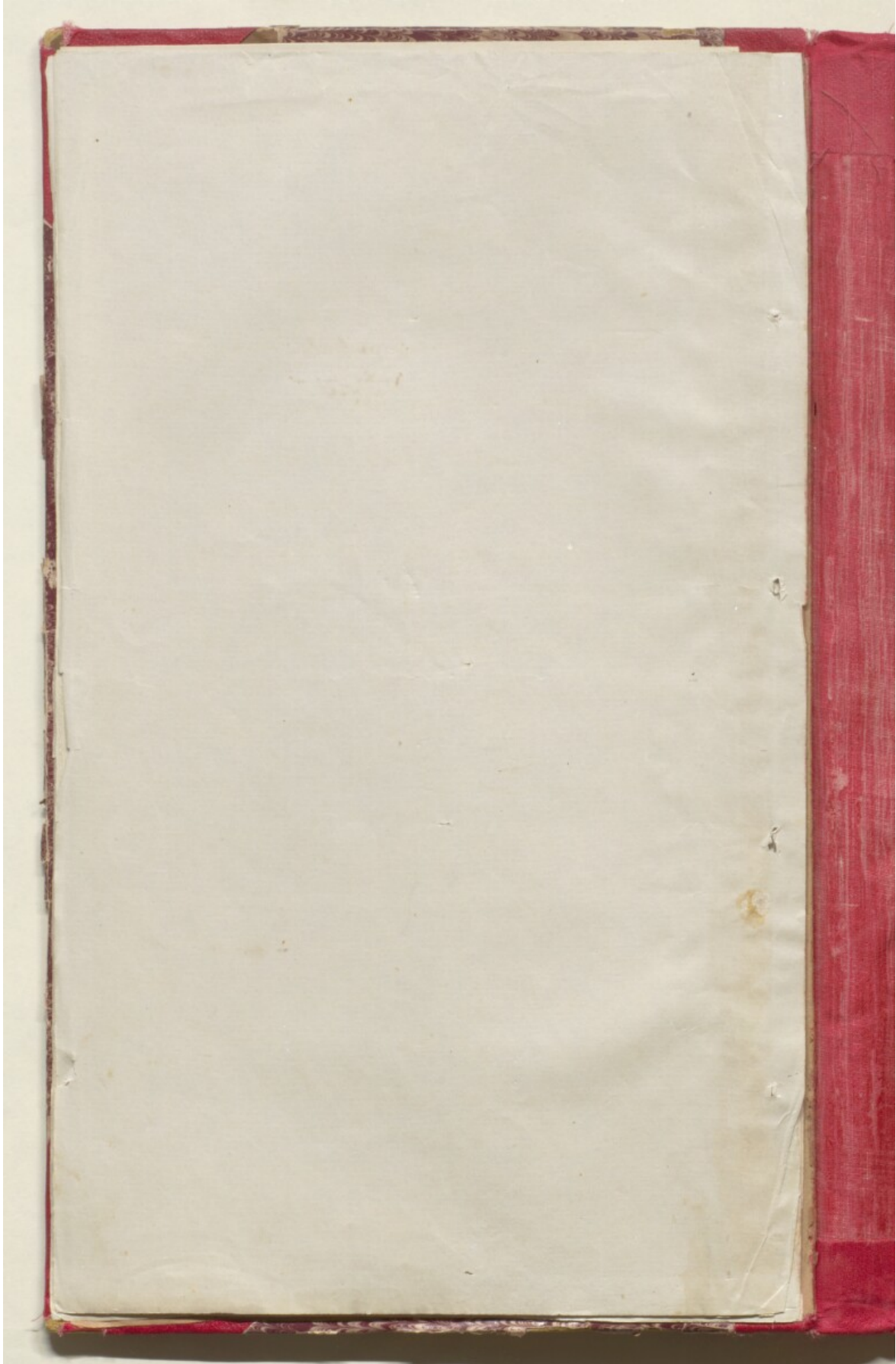


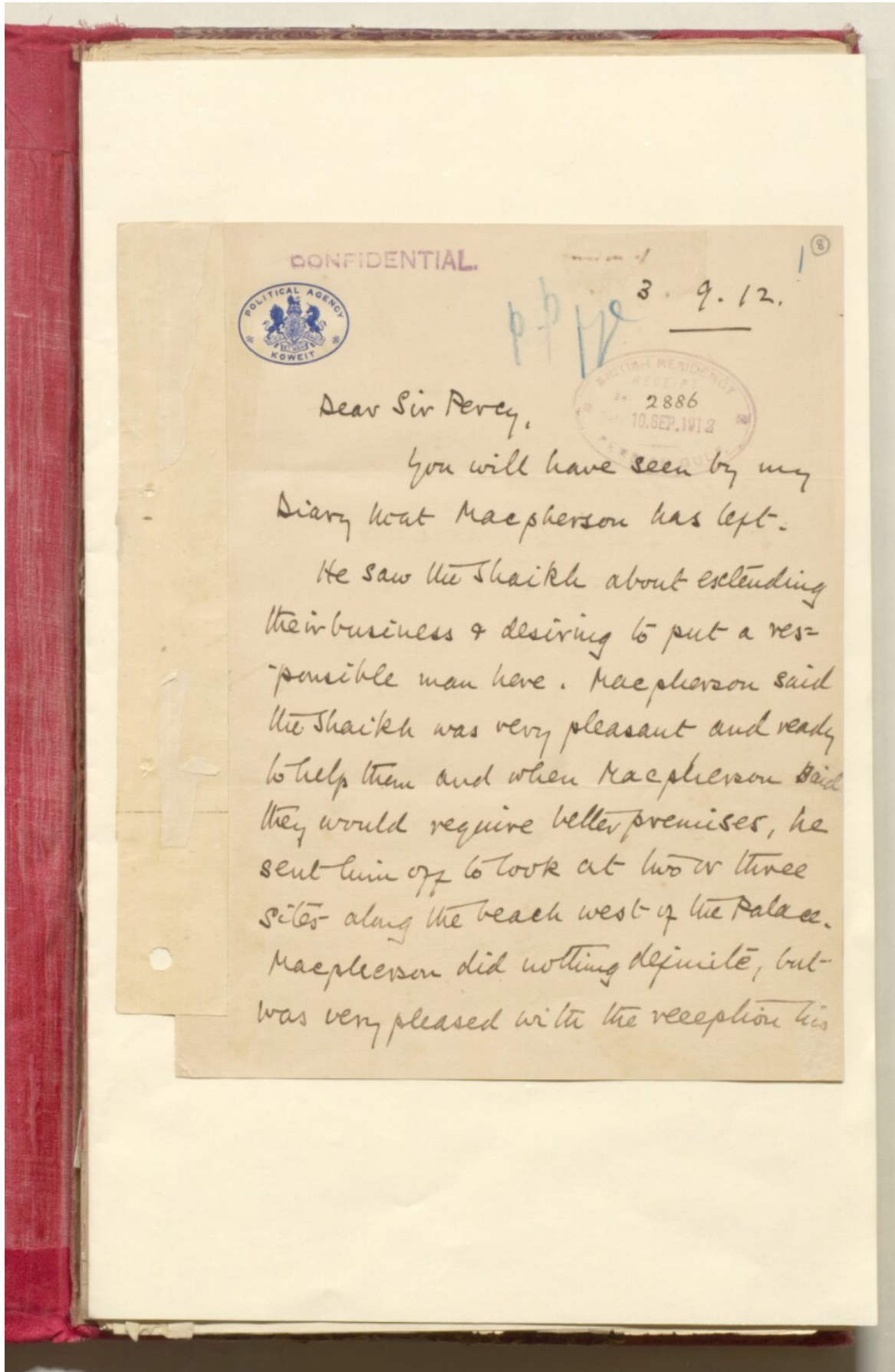
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ج











project-got from the Shaikh.

Later I saw the Sheikh and talking about Macpherson he said either he or another member of the firm would return in a month or later to settle up details if possible. Without my prompting at all the Sheikh went on to say that G.P.'s business had grown a lot and he was ready to help them all he could for old times' sake.

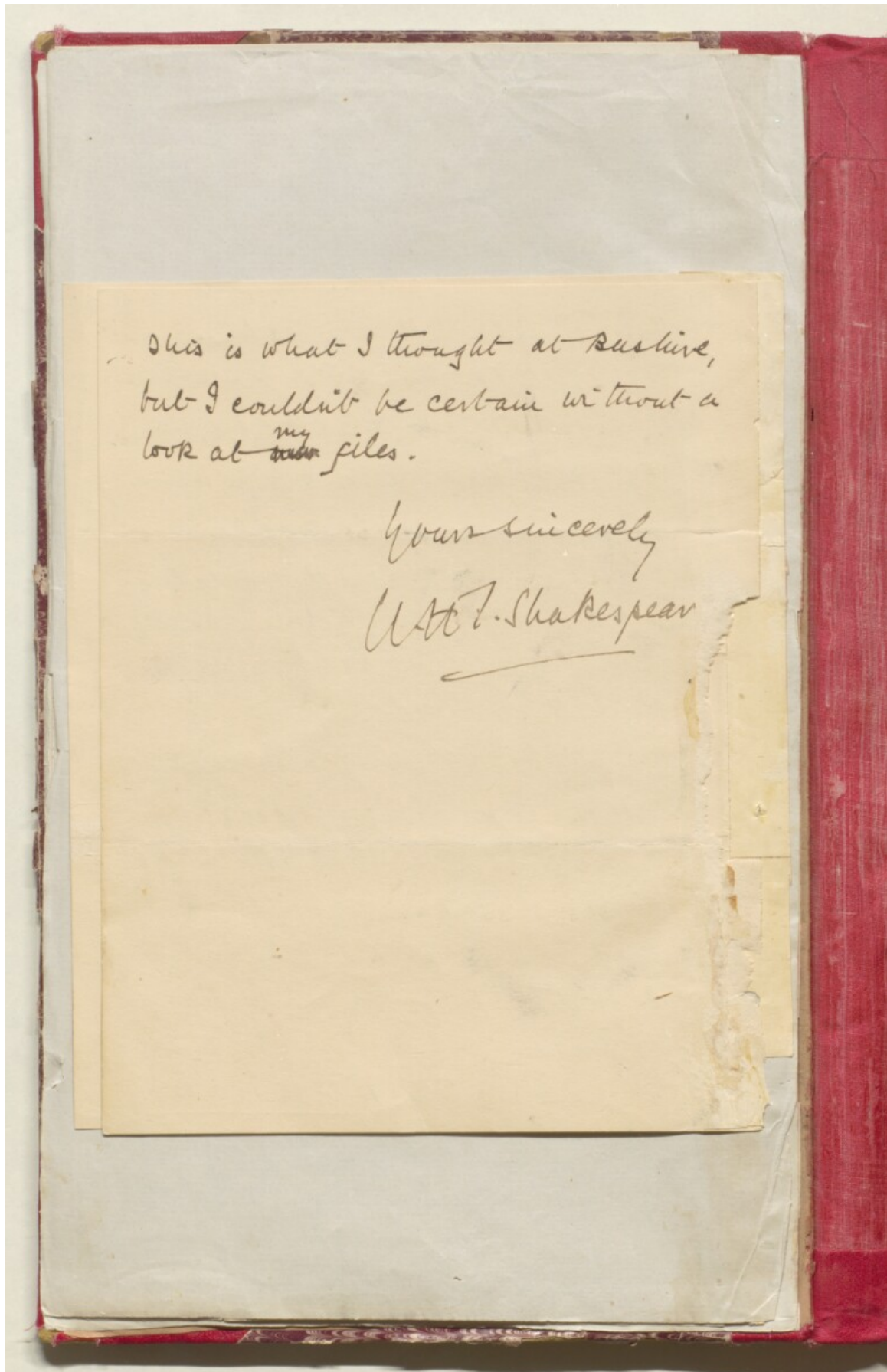
I then said "but the Germans will begin at you again & say that now you have allowed a salute for Gray Paul, why not permit us". The Shaikh laughed & said no doubt they would

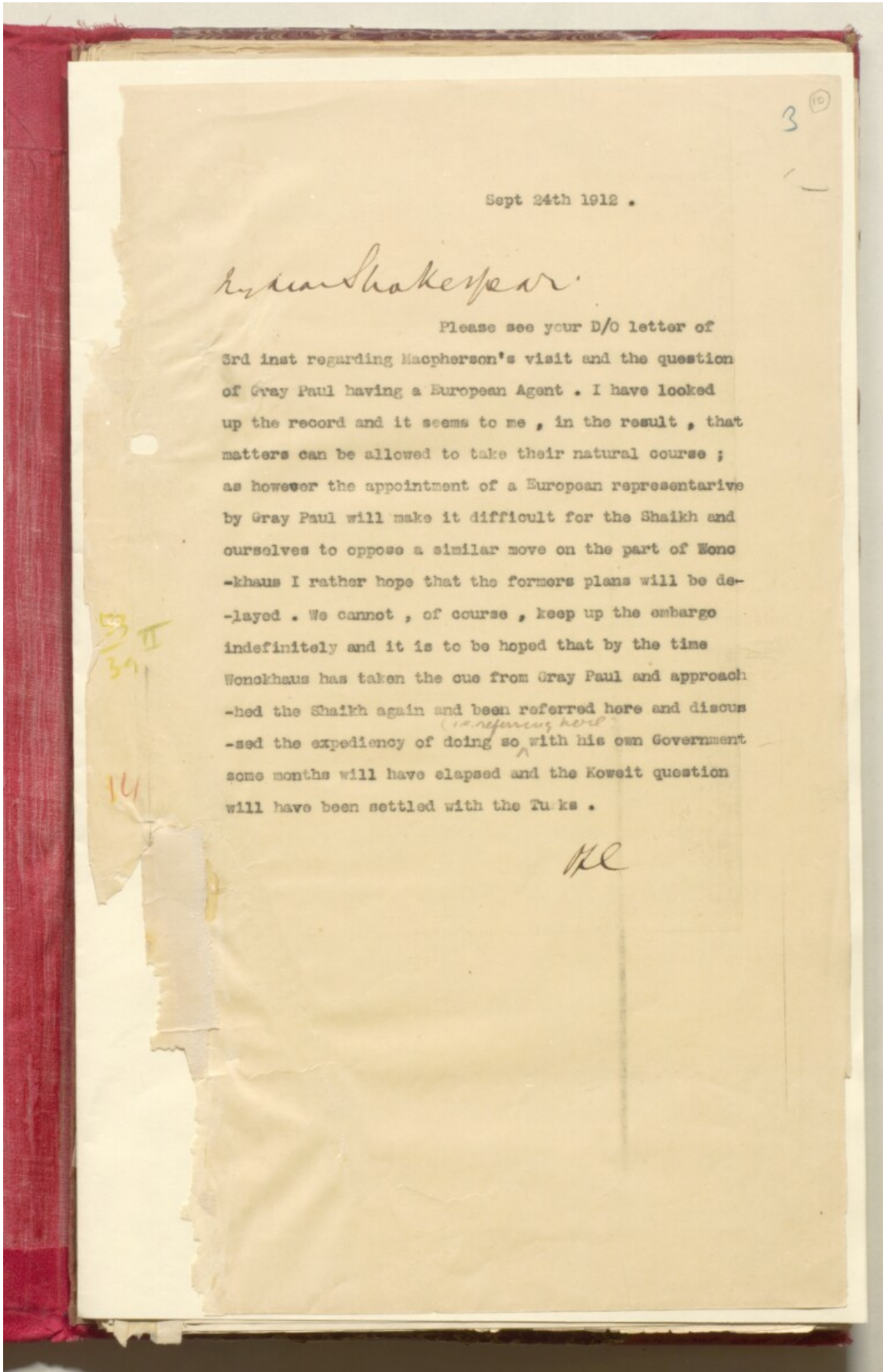


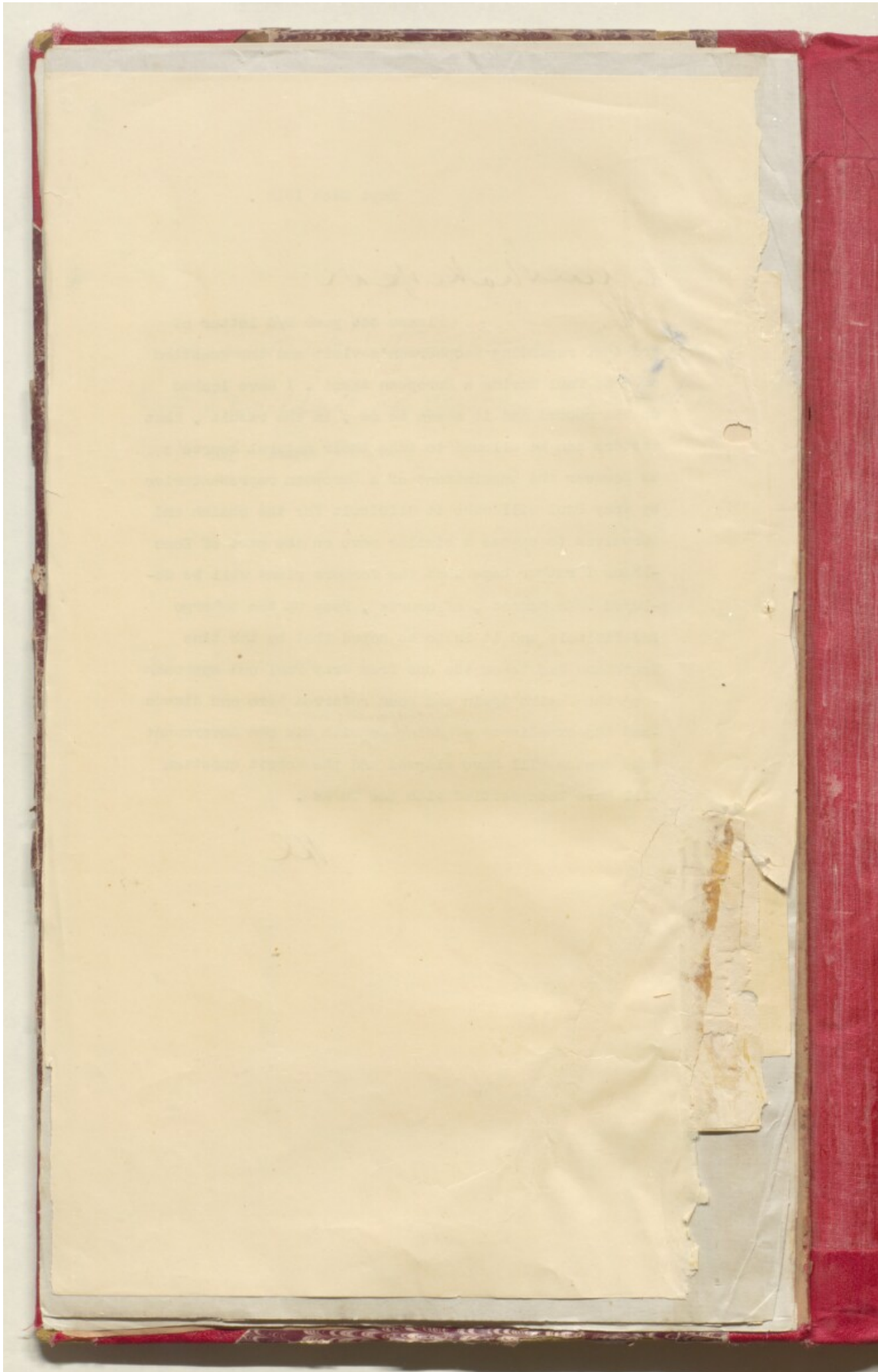
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but- he would tell them as before, that
they had better refer their request first
to the Resident or P.A; that anyhow
Gray Paul had been years in Kuwait,
were old friends of his, & as their busi-
-ness grew they naturally wanted to
put a more responsible man here.
I left it at that as being all that
we really required.

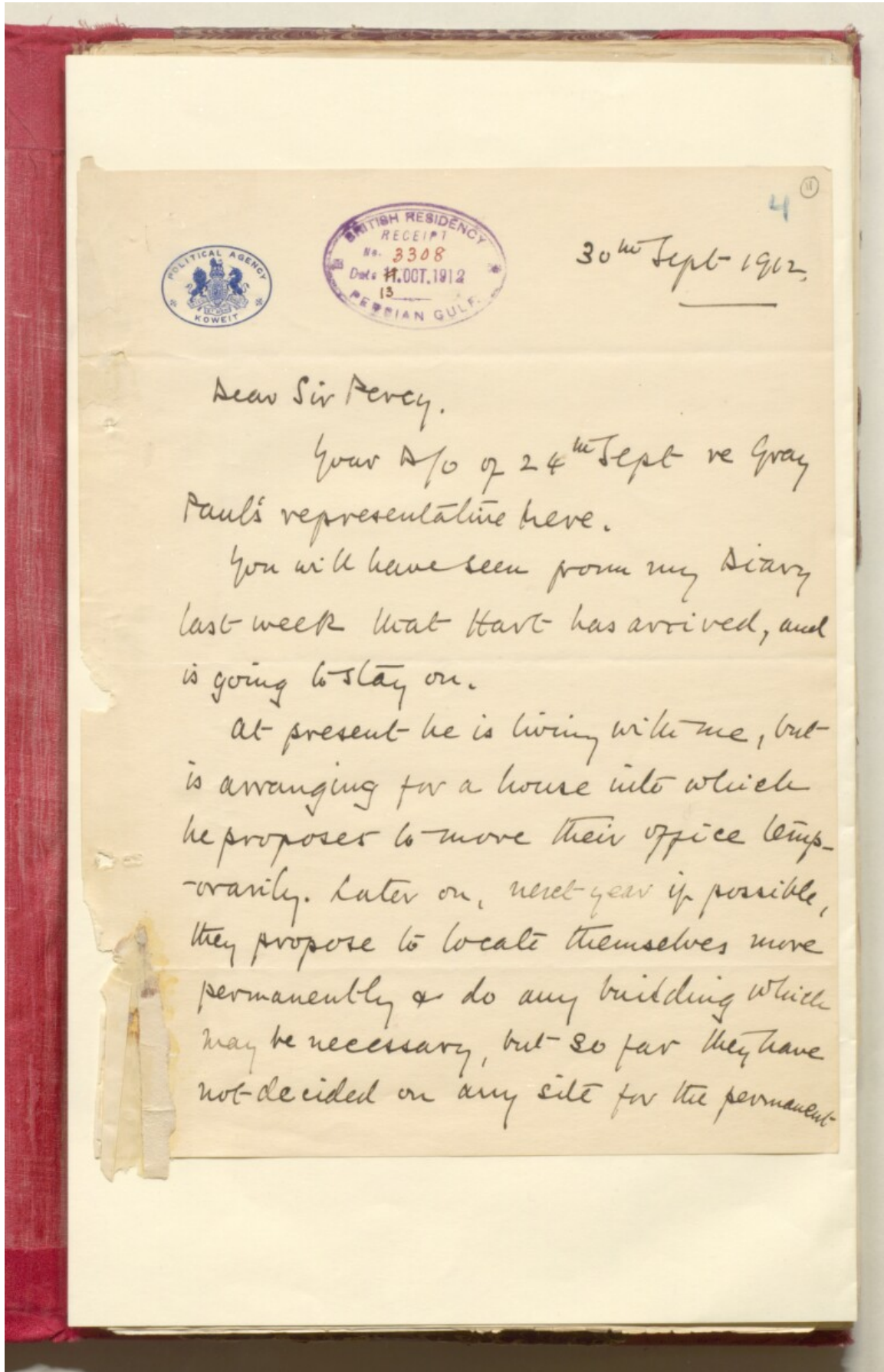
I have been all through my files
but can find nothing except your
suggestion to Foreign, in your telegram
No 395 d/30th April 1911 under (14), which
need hamper the Shaikh. And that
suggestion I never communicated to
the Shaikh, as Govt did not require
it; vide my letter No E-36 d/14 June 1911.

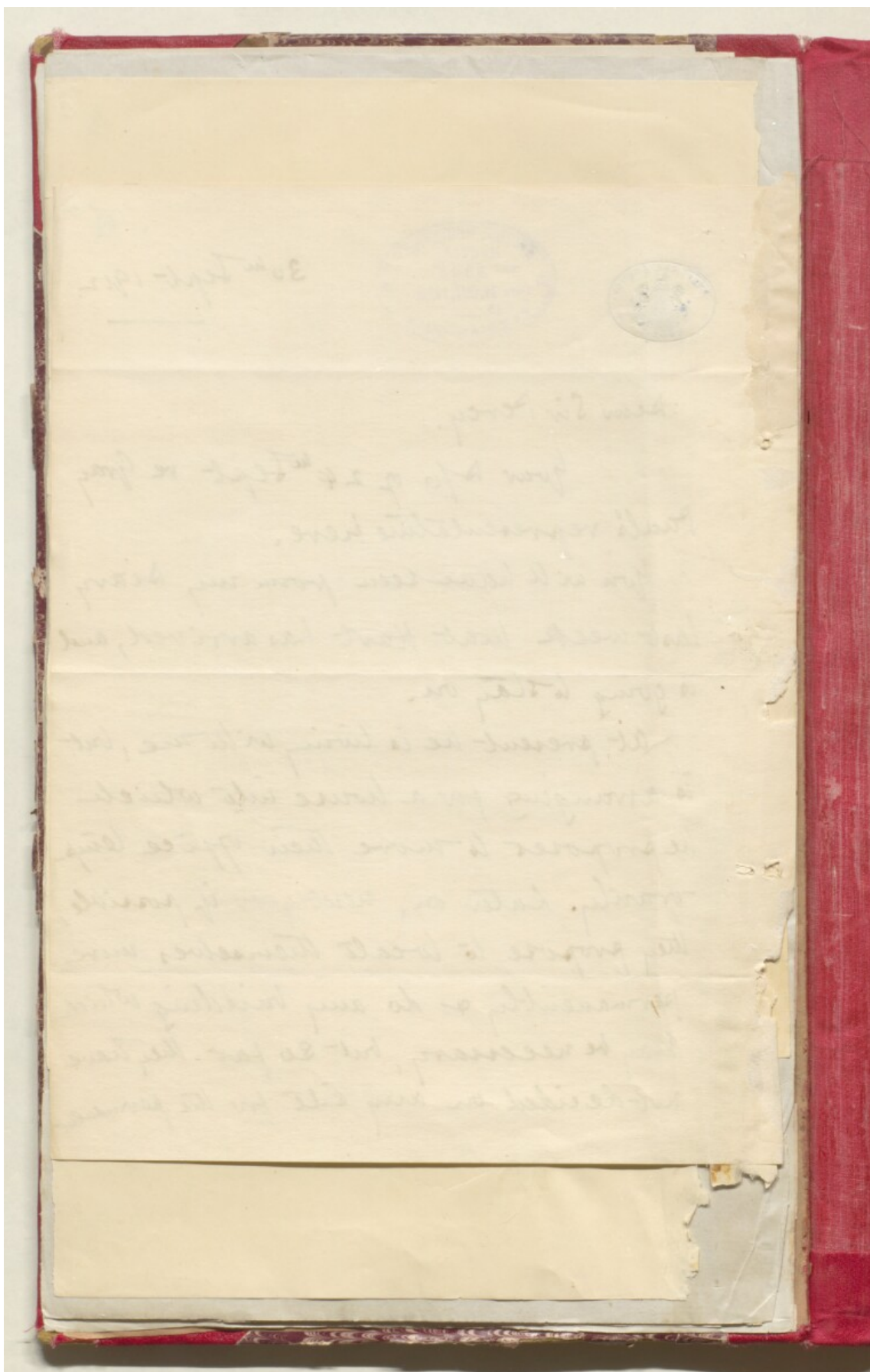
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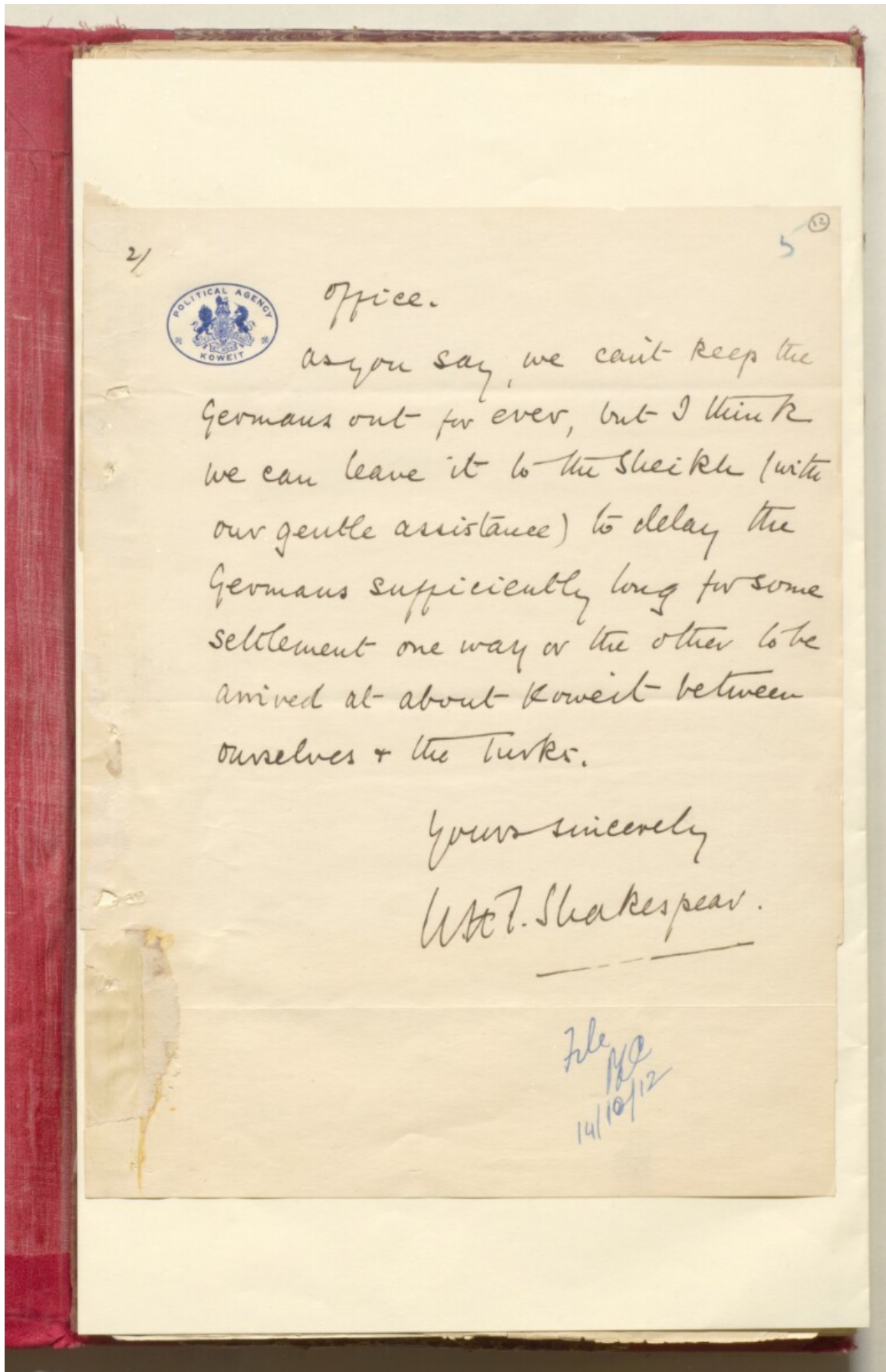


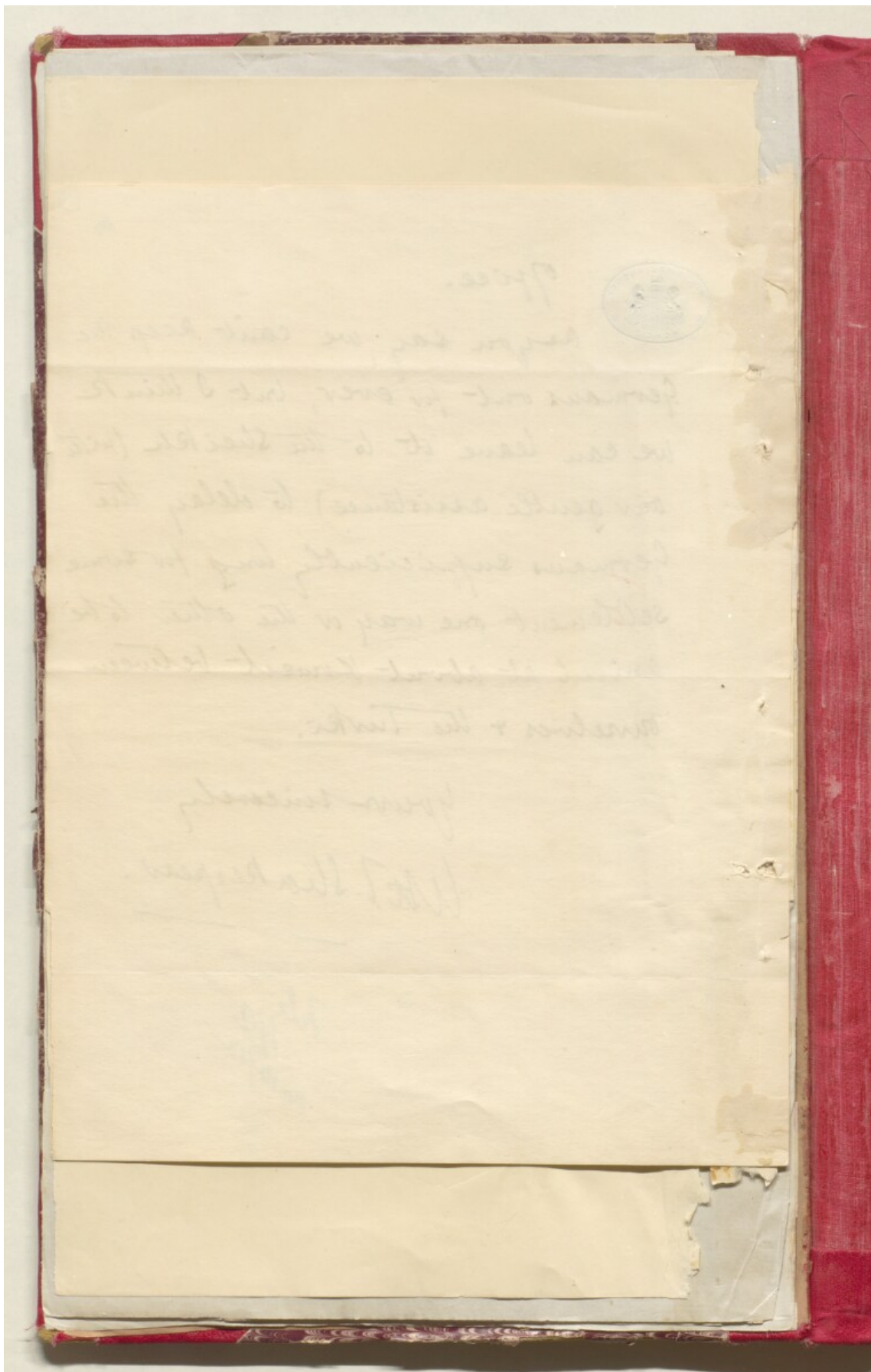


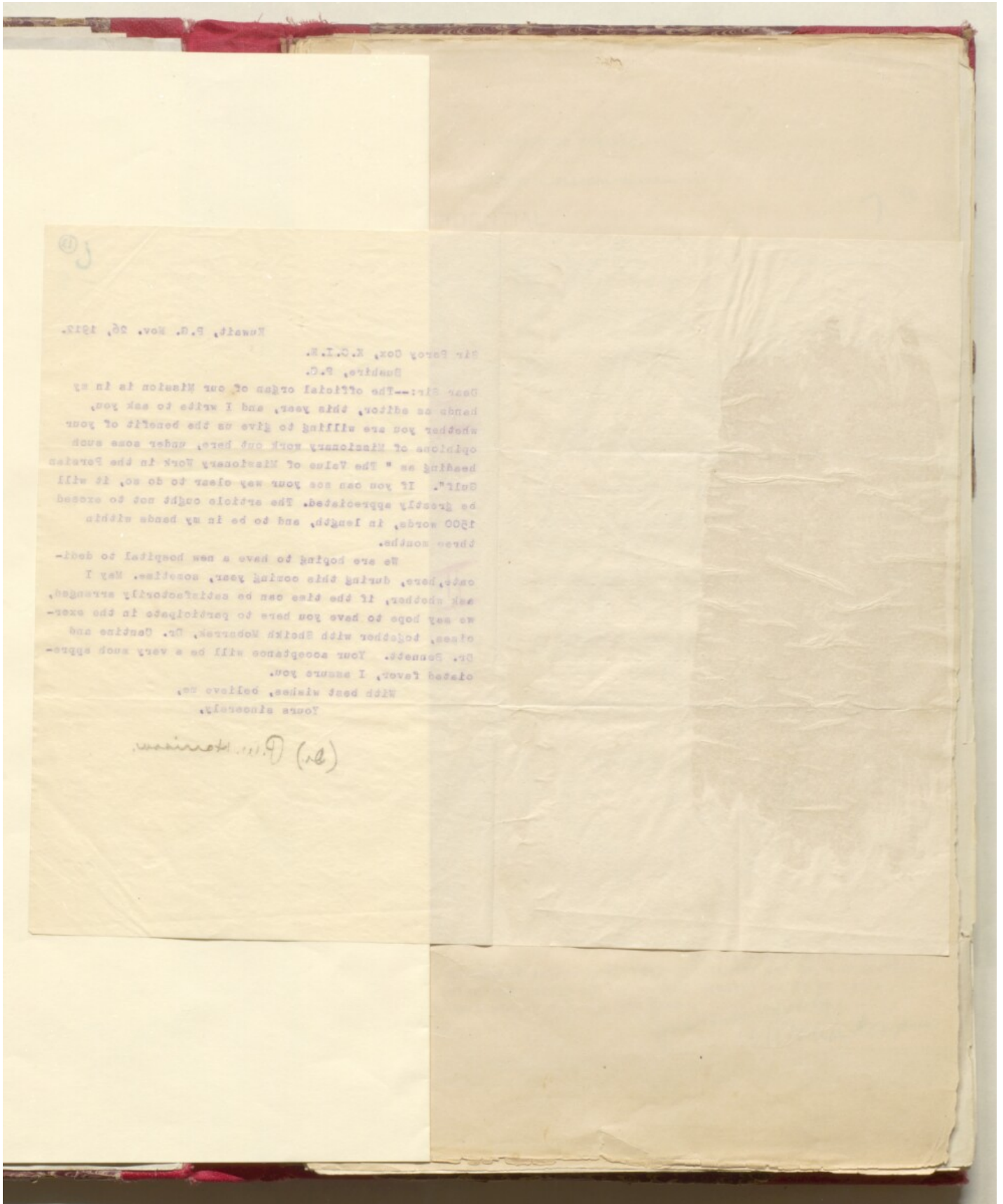


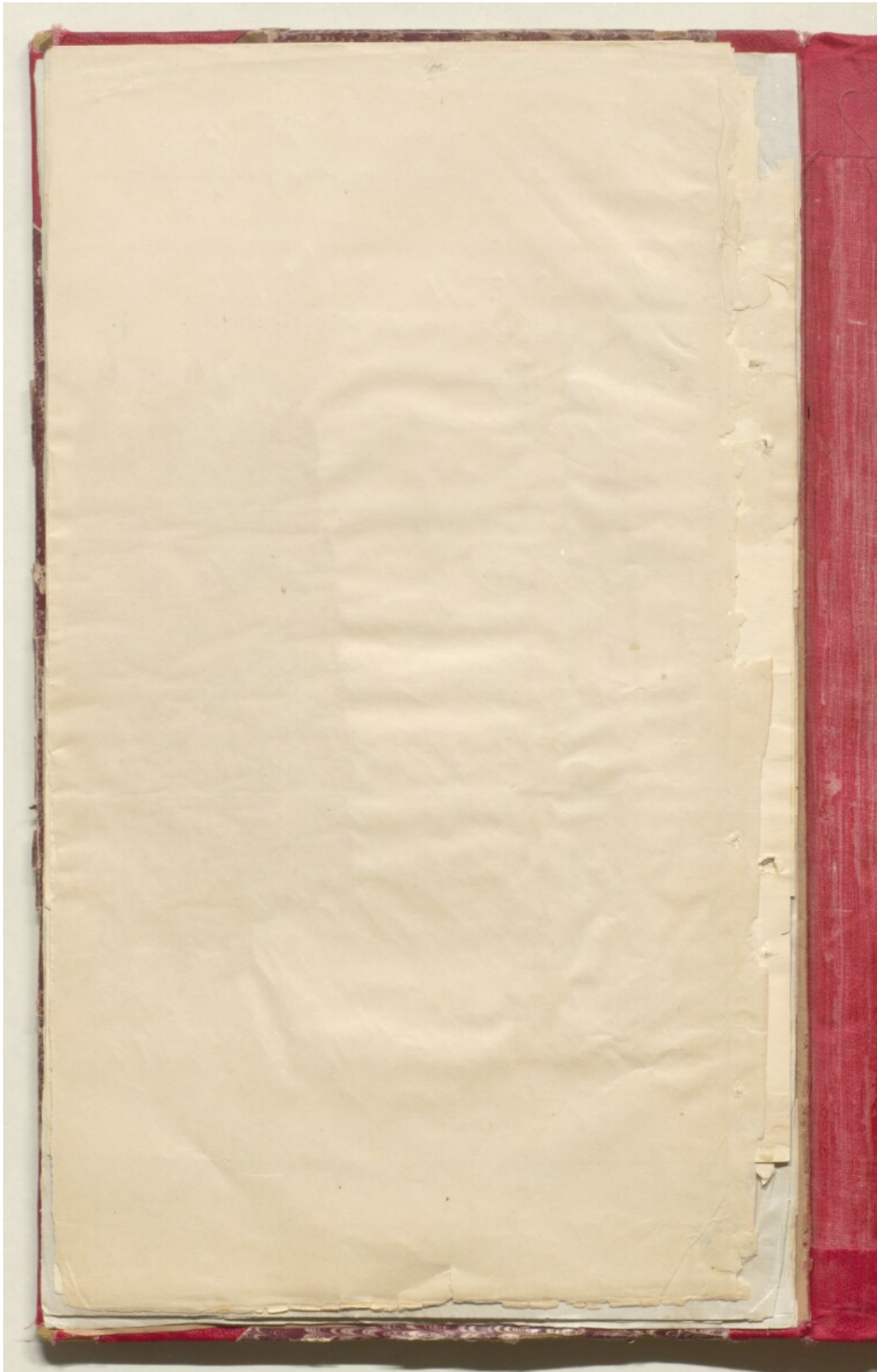


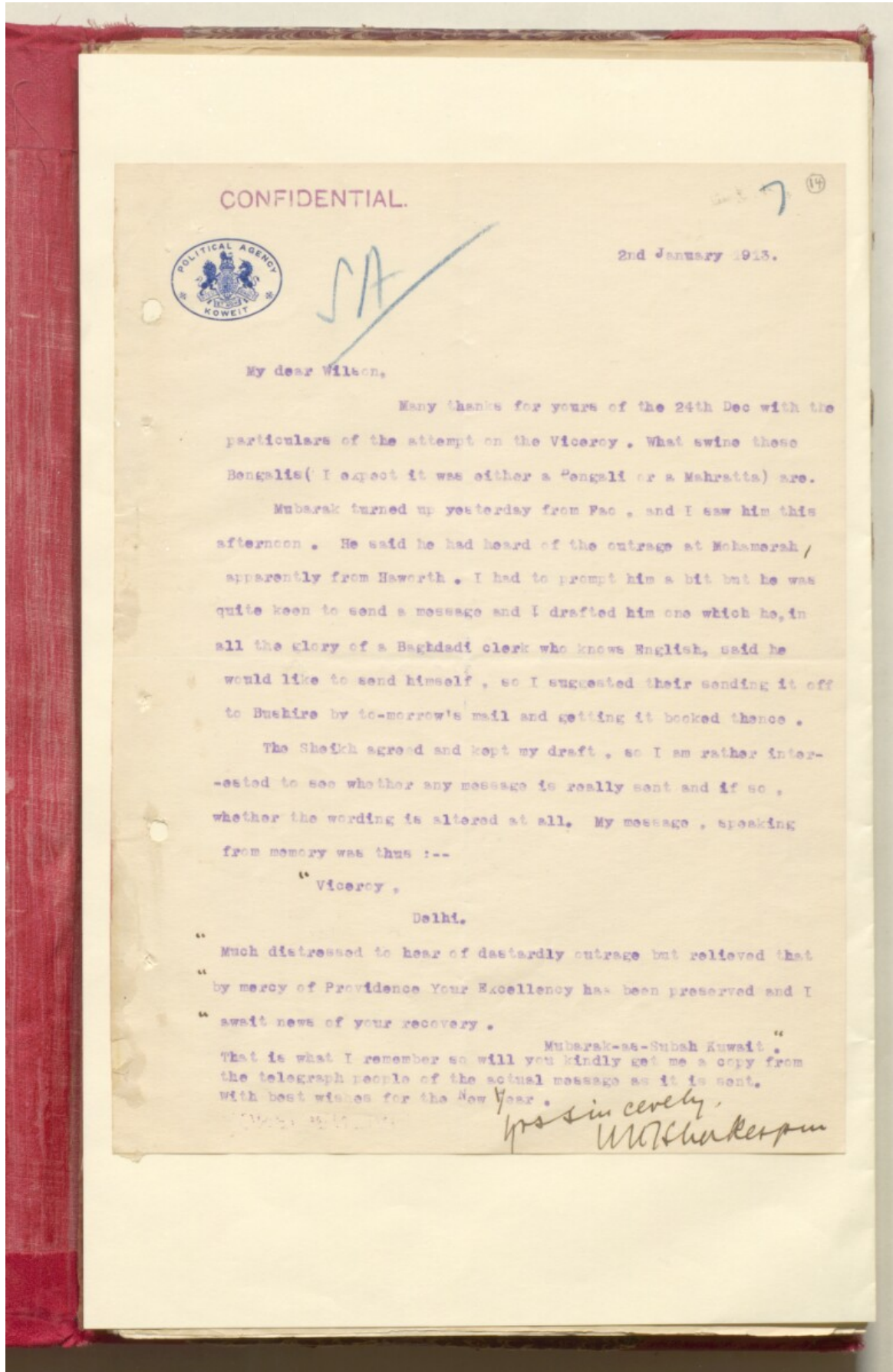


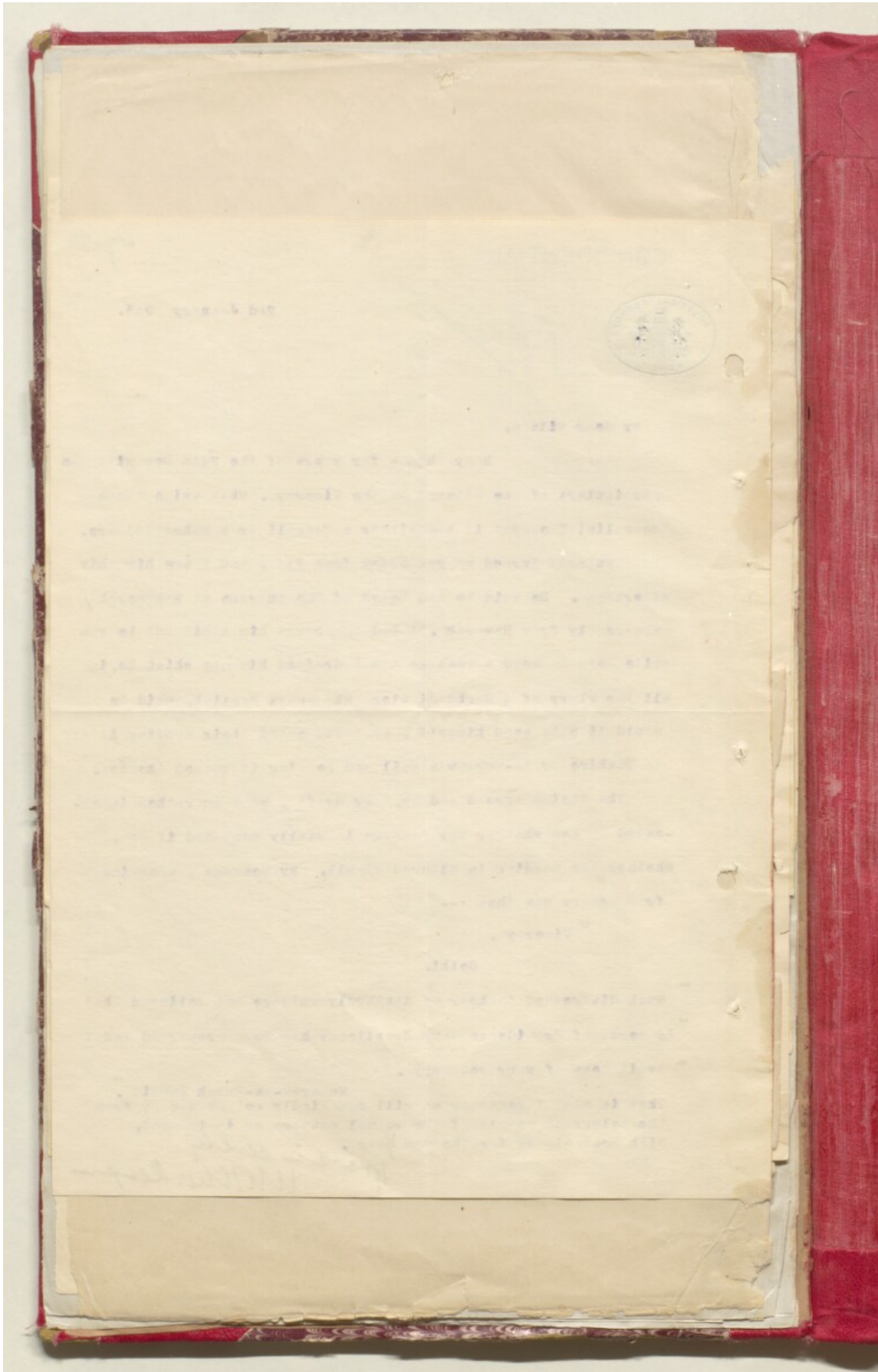


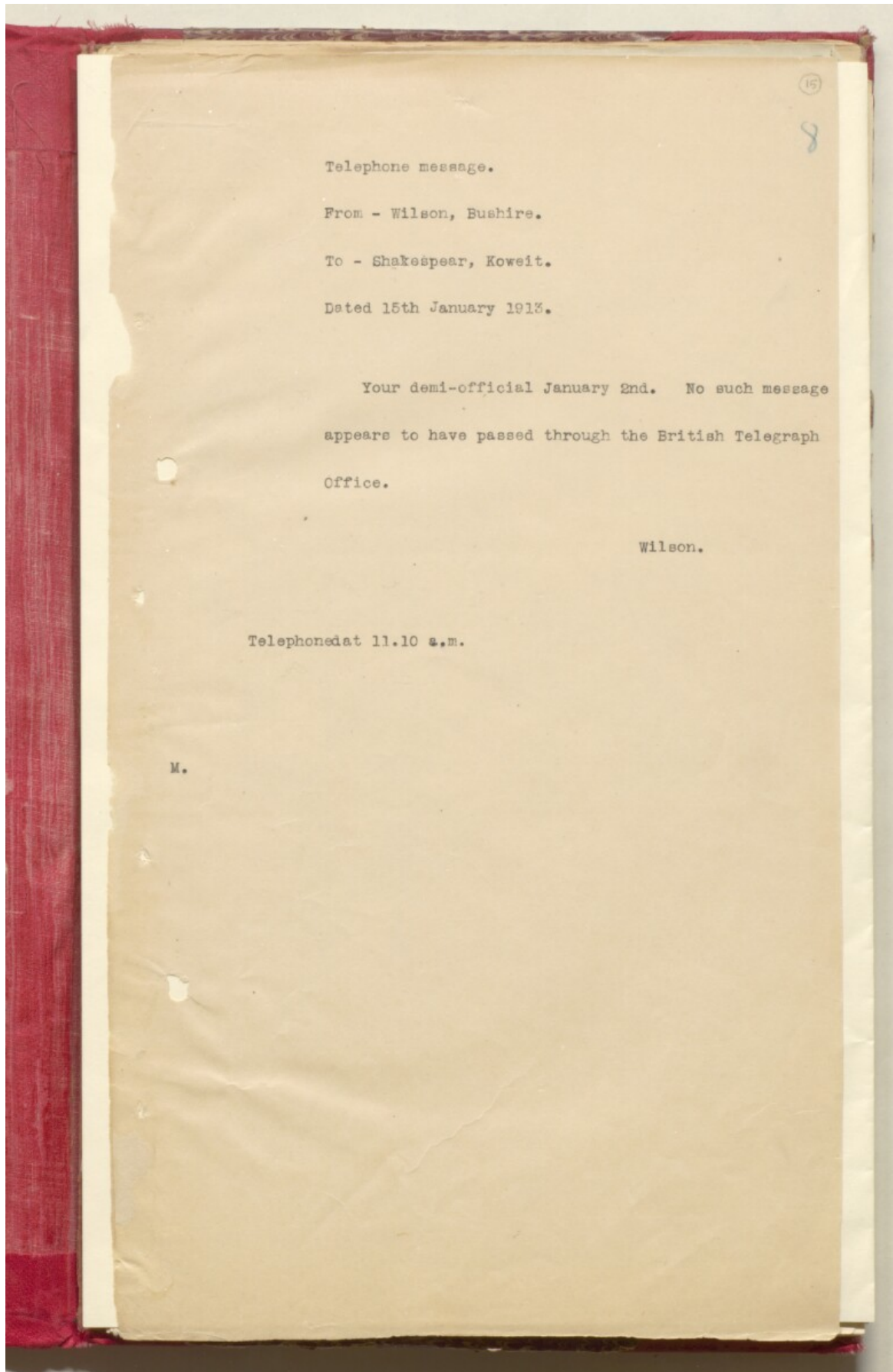


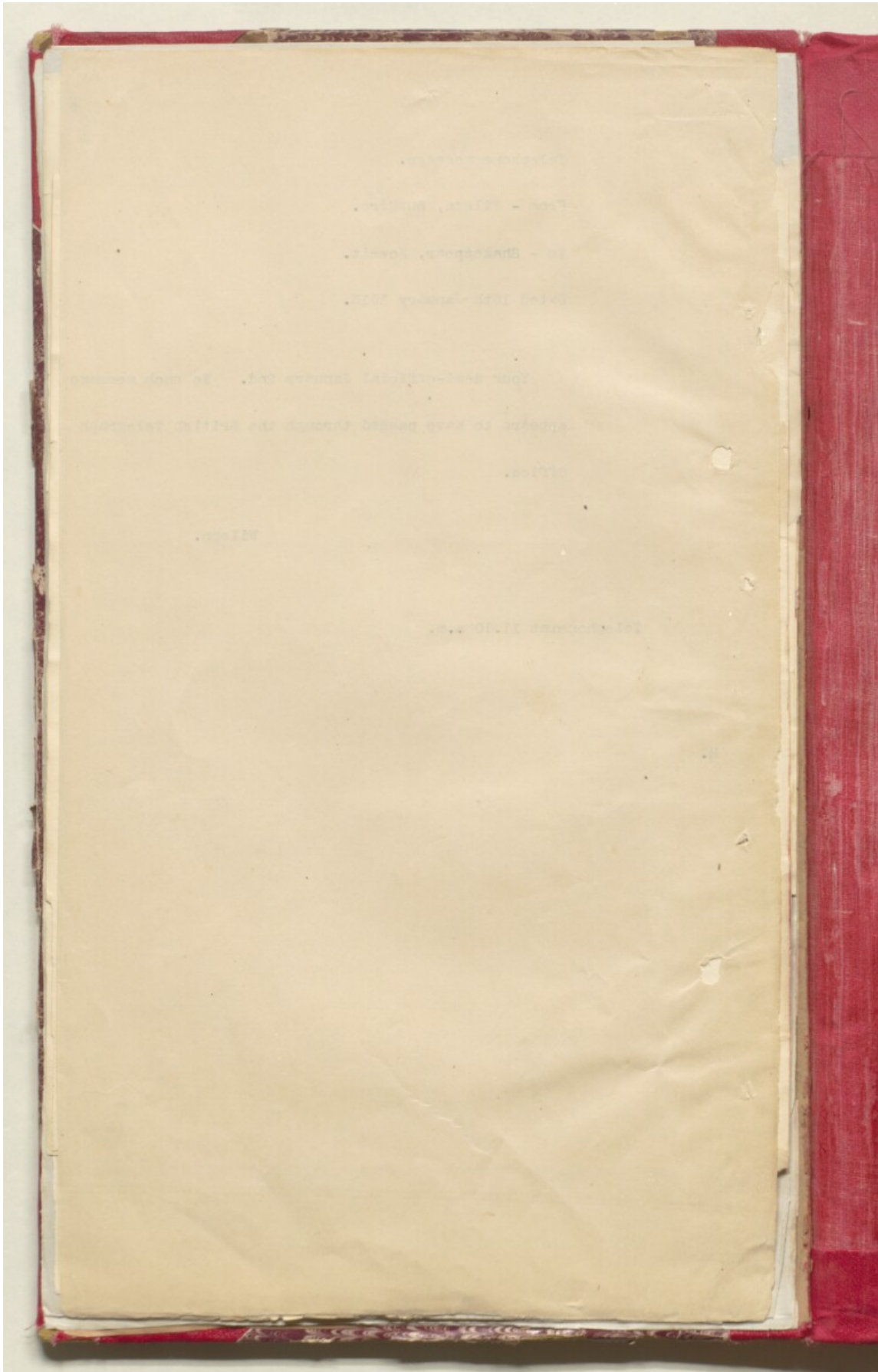


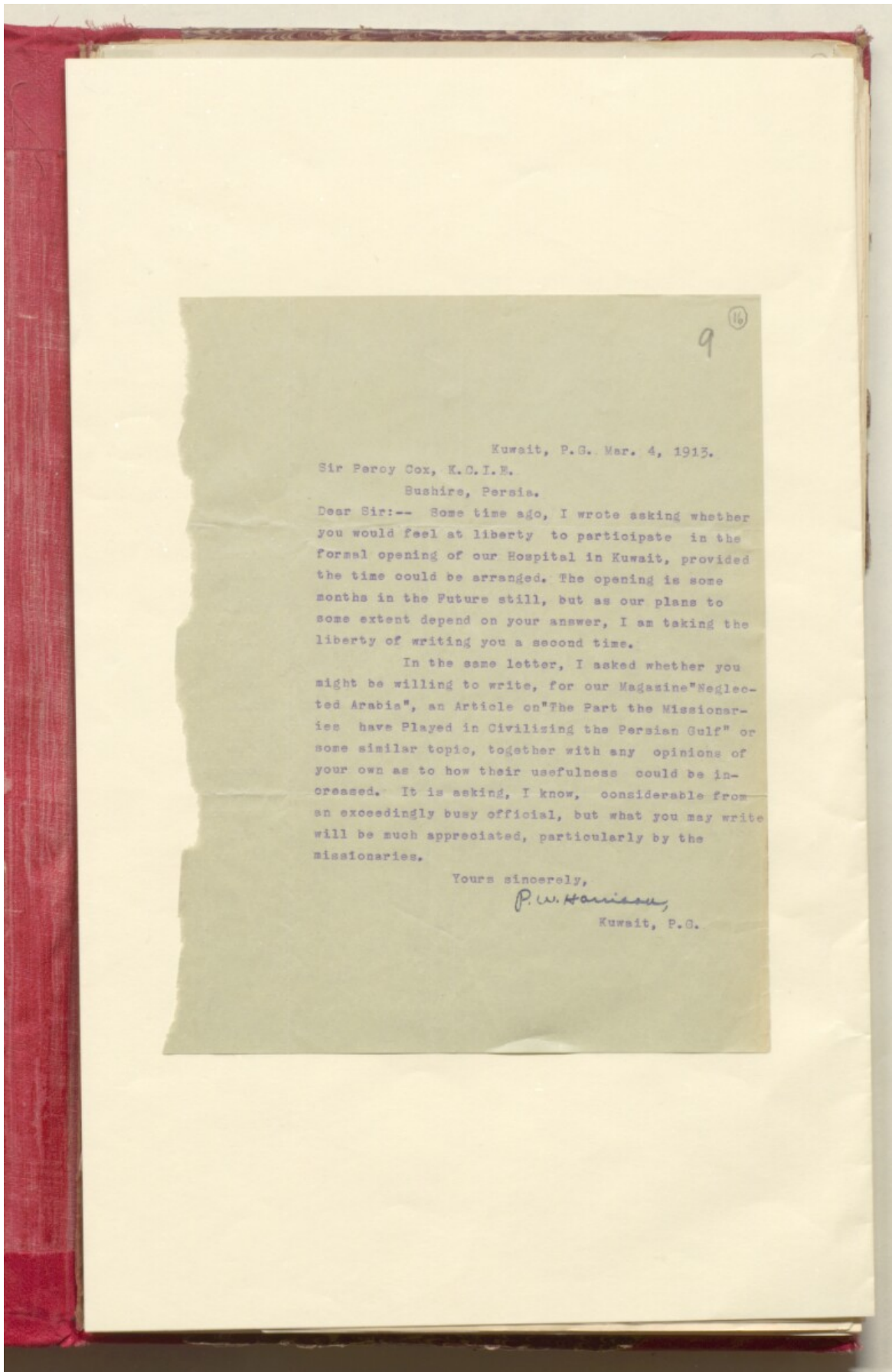
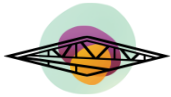


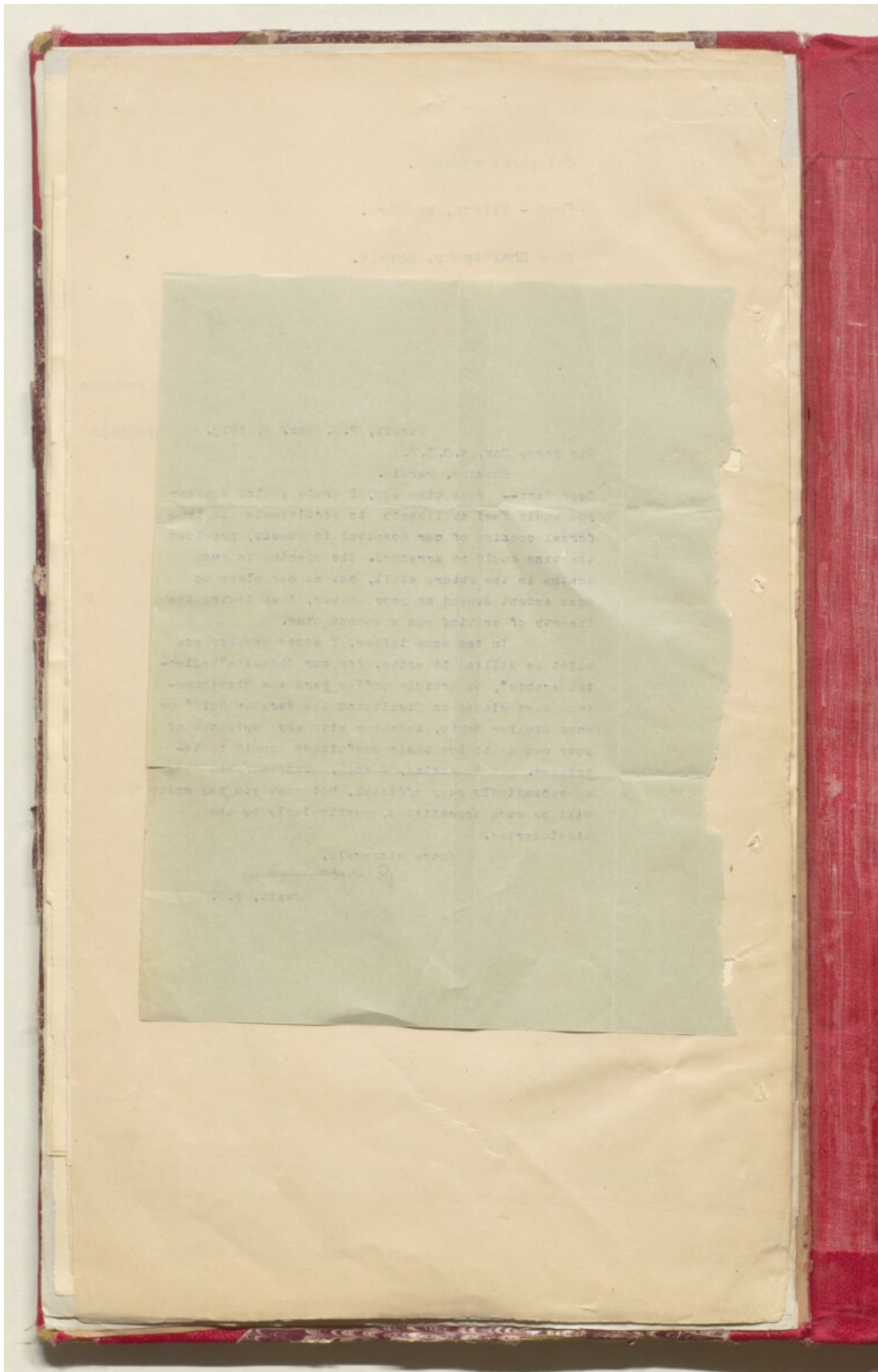
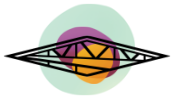


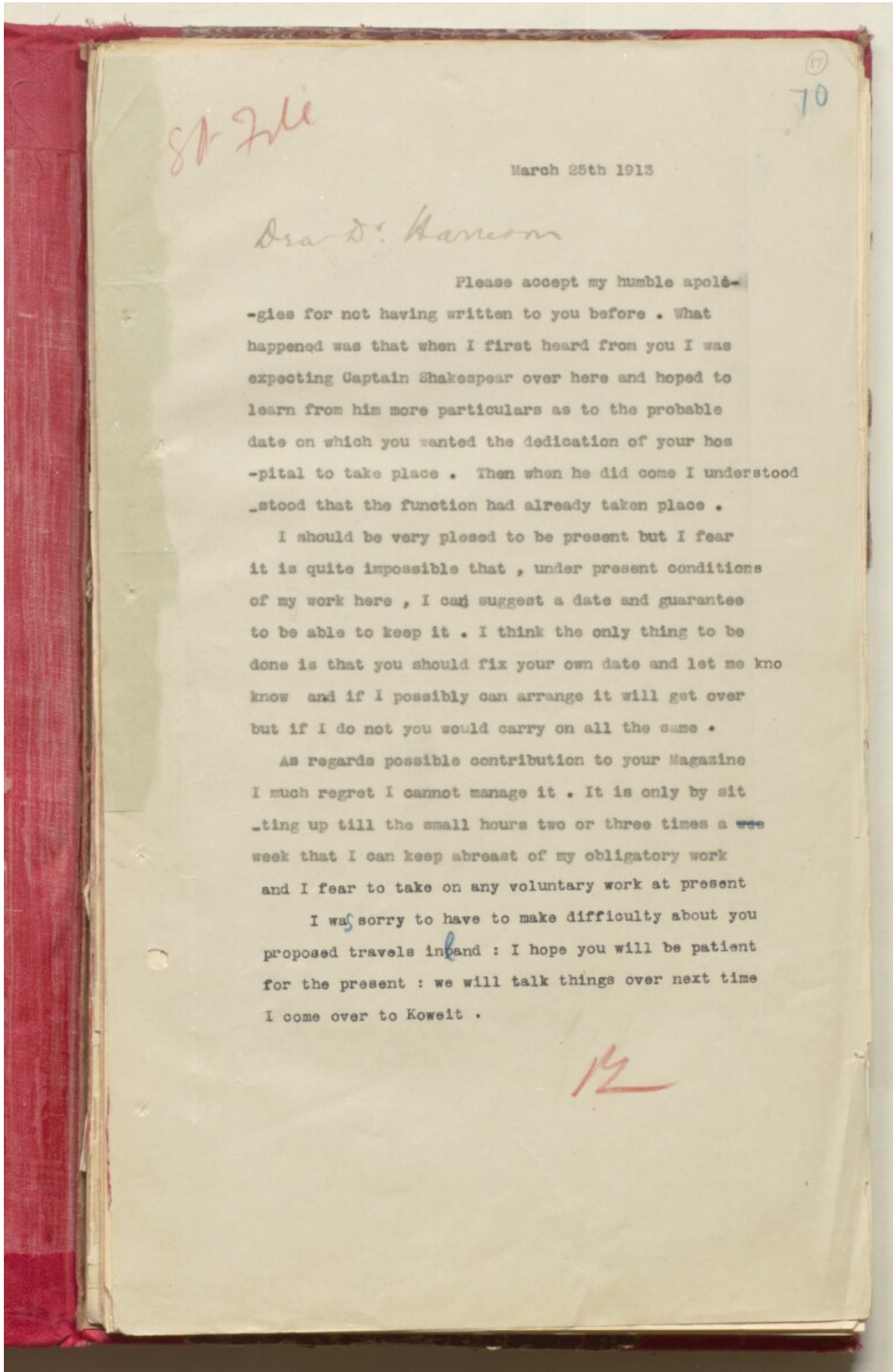
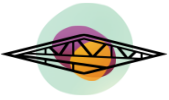












March 25th 1913

Dear Dr. Hanson

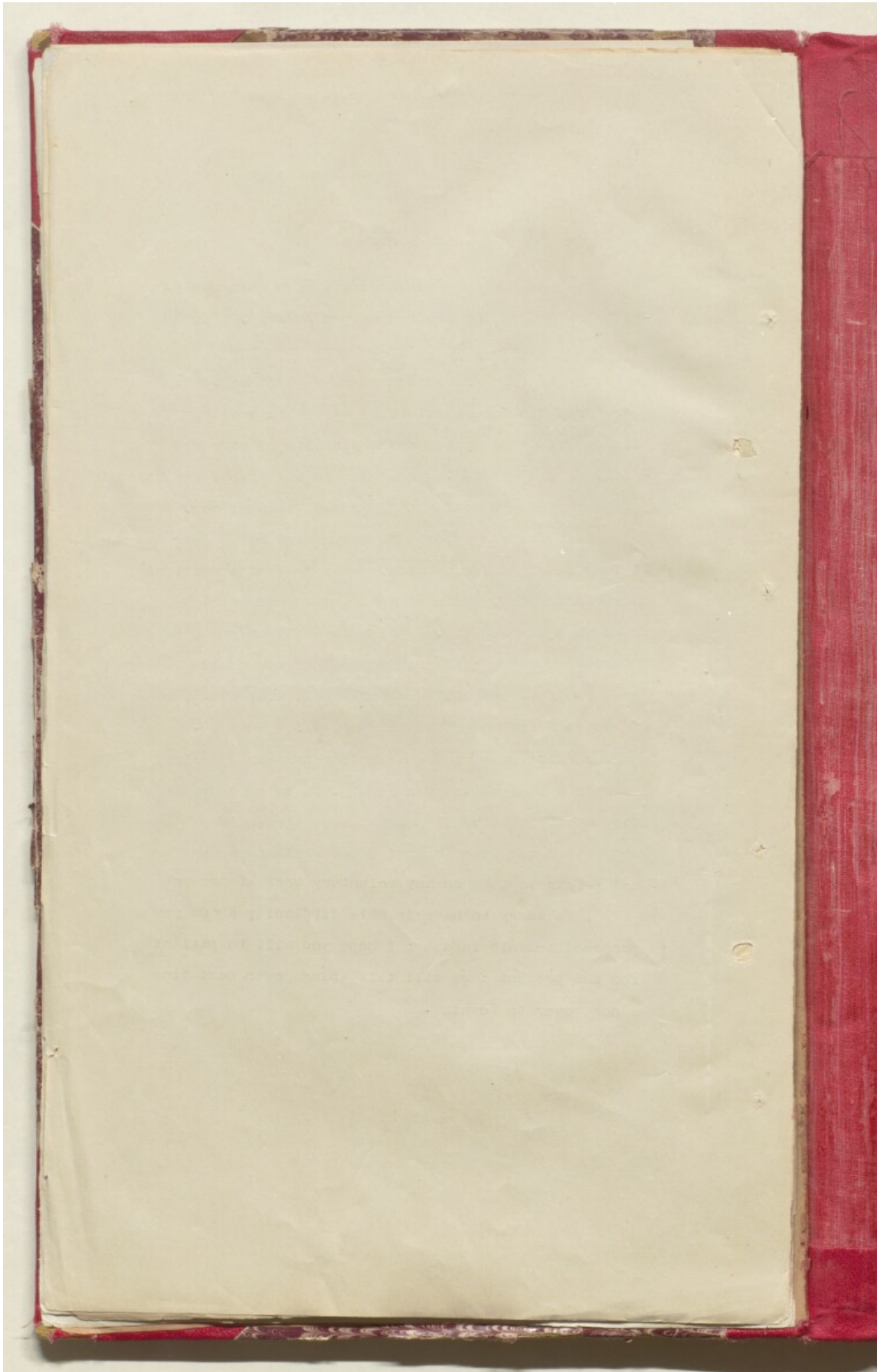
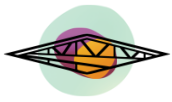
Please accept my humble apologies for not having written to you before . What happened was that when I first heard from you I was expecting Captain Shakespear over here and hoped to learn from him more particulars as to the probable date on which you wanted the dedication of your hospital to take place . Then when he did come I understood that the function had already taken place .

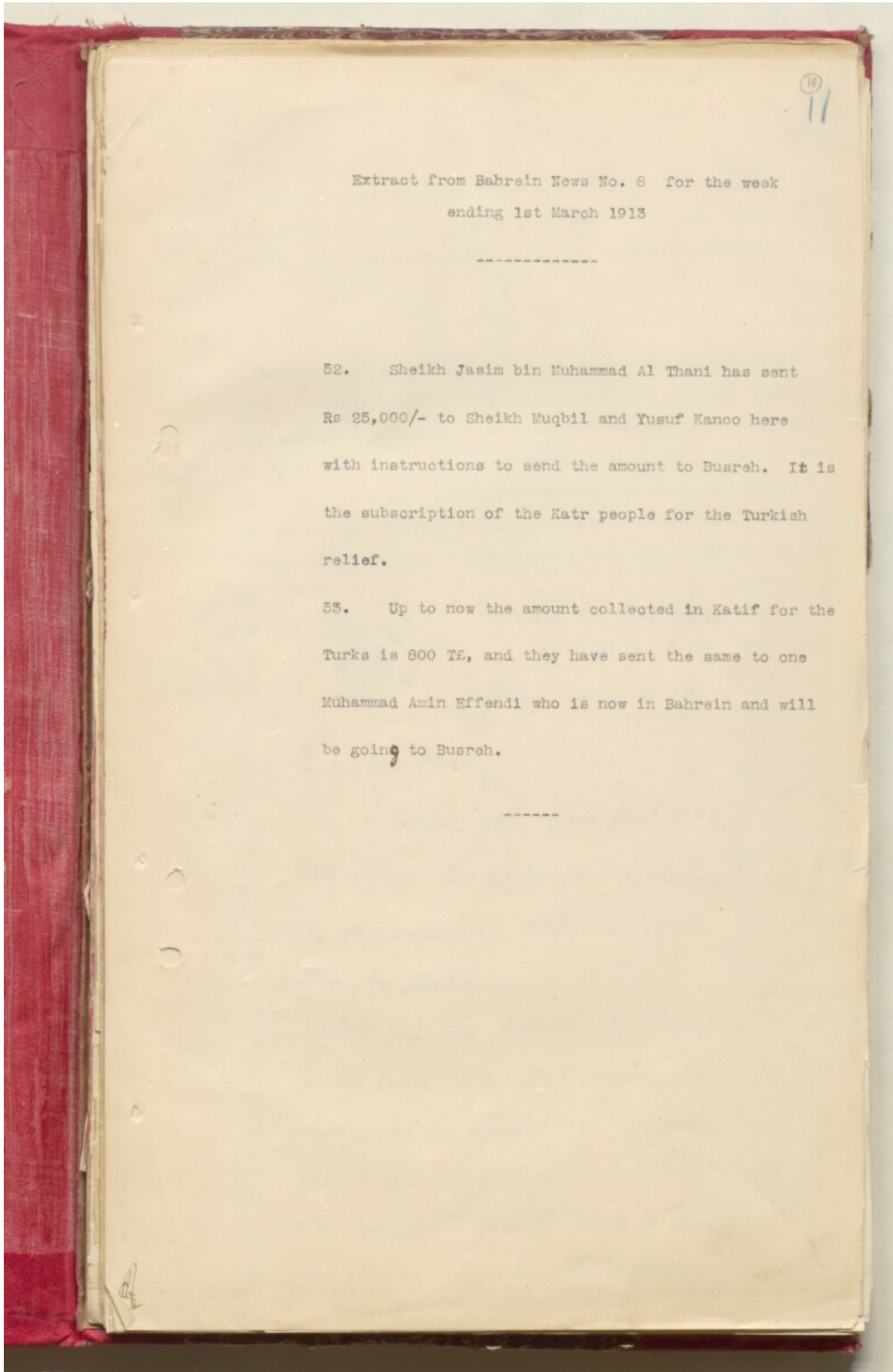
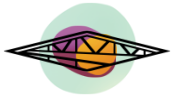
I should be very plesed to be present but I fear it is quite impossible that , under present conditions of my work here , I can suggest a date and guarantee to be able to keep it . I think the only thing to be done is that you should fix your own date and let me know and if I possibly can arrange it will get over but if I do not you would carry on all the same .

As regards possible contribution to your Magazine I much regret I cannot manage it . It is only by sitting up till the small hours two or three times a week that I can keep abreast of my obligatory work and I fear to take on any voluntary work at present

I was sorry to have to make difficulty about you proposed travels inland : I hope you will be patient for the present : we will talk things over next time I come over to Koweit .

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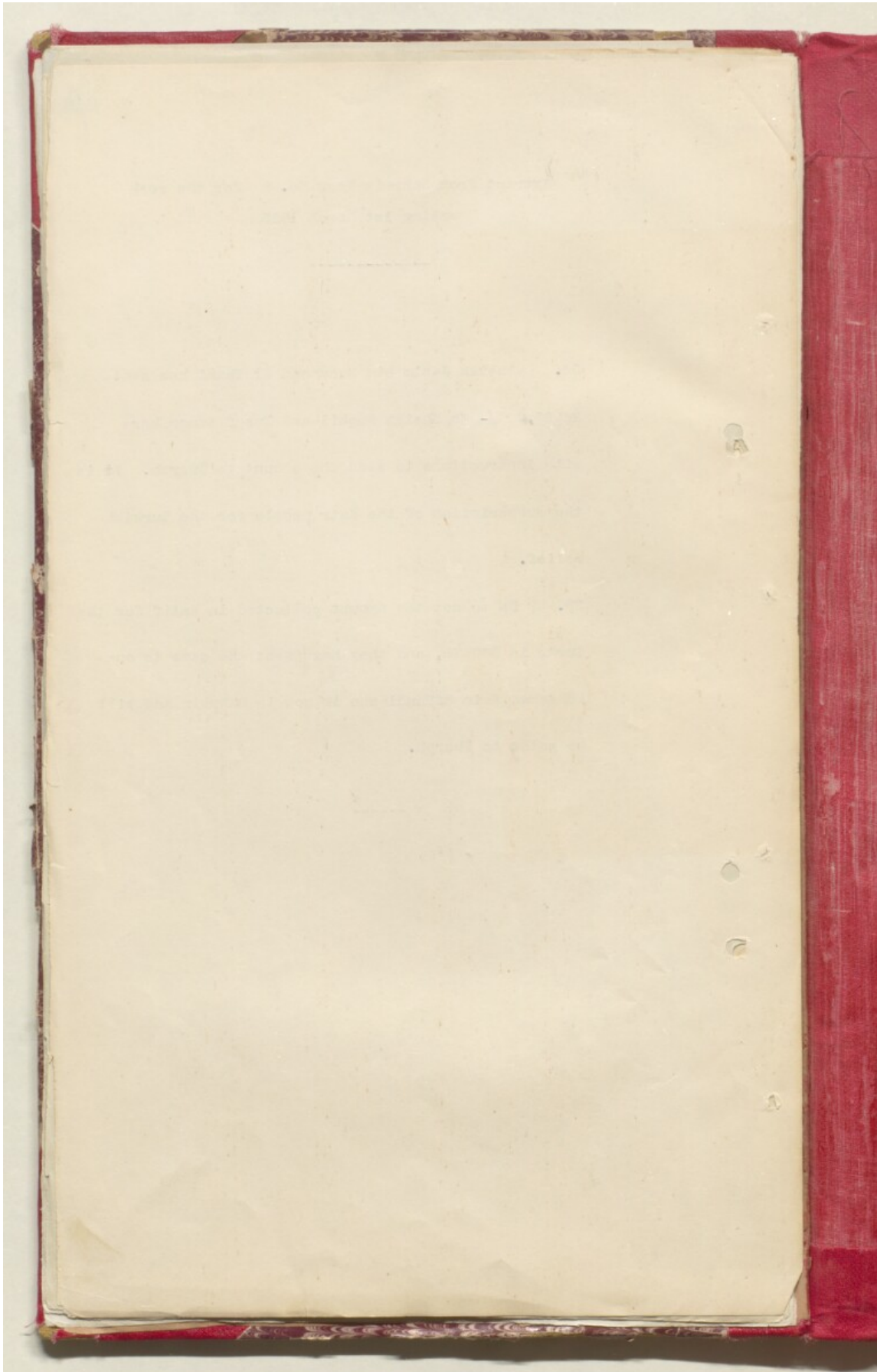
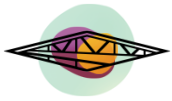


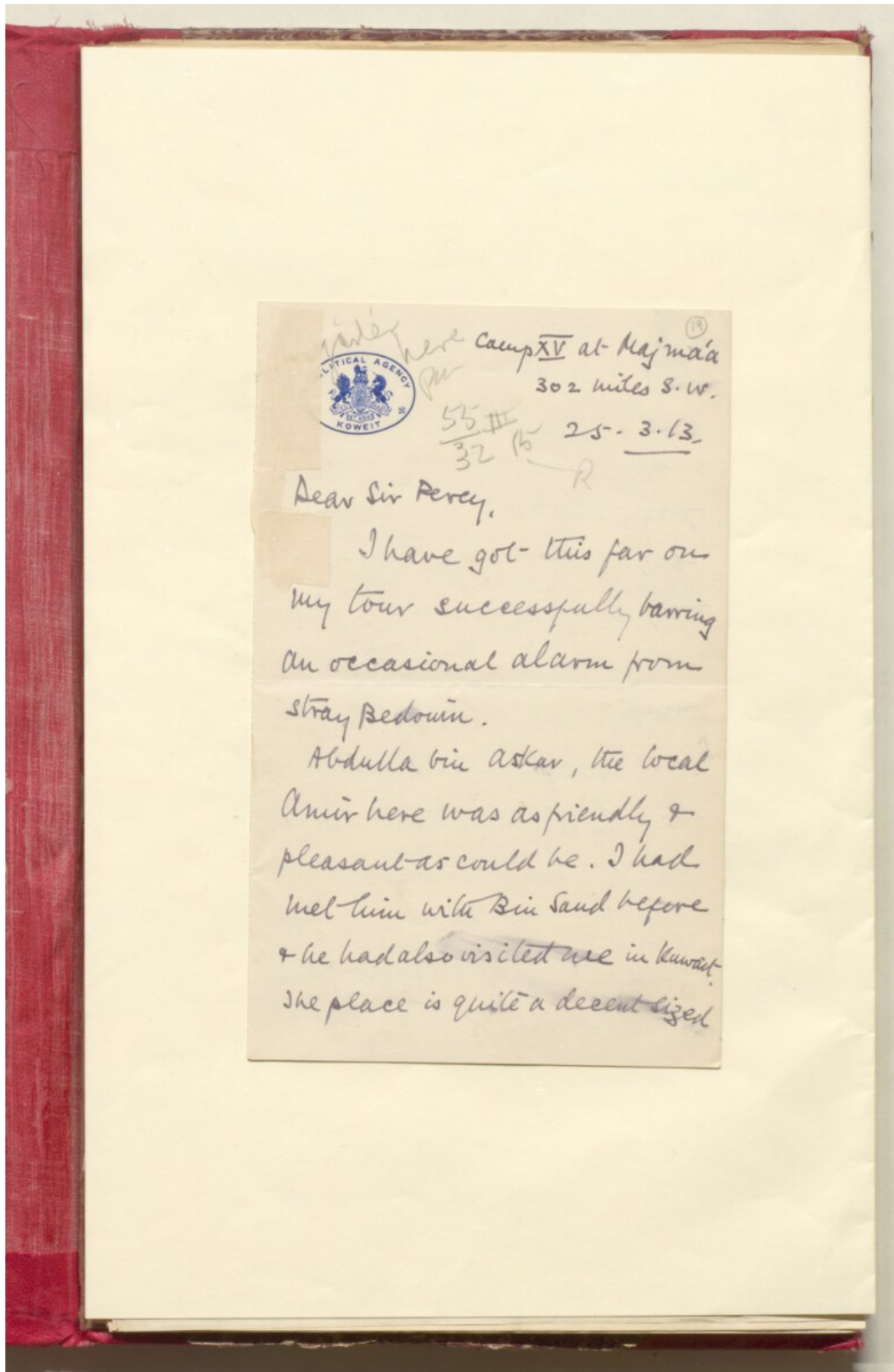
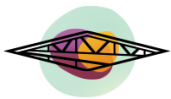


Extract from Bahrain News No. 8 for the week
ending 1st March 1913

52. Sheikh Jasim bin Muhammad Al Thani has sent
Rs 25,000/- to Sheikh Muqbil and Yusuf Kanoo here
with instructions to send the amount to Busreh. It is
the subscription of the Katr people for the Turkish
relief.

53. Up to now the amount collected in Katif for the
Turks is 800 TS, and they have sent the same to one
Muhammad Amin Effendi who is now in Bahrain and will
be going to Busreh.

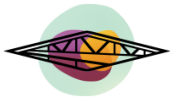




Dear Sir Percy,

I have got- this far on
my tour successfully barring
an occasional alarm from
stray Bedouin.

Abdulla bin Askar, the local
Amir here was as friendly &
pleasant as could be. I had
met him with Bin Saud before
& he had also visited me in Kuwait.
The place is quite a decent sized



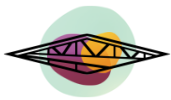
little town, with date-
gardens all round, the
green of which it was a real
change to see.

The "Dahana" ridge was weary
work to cross but is a of a most
curious formation, very loose
soft sand with waves & ripples
on it exactly like the sea and
the sand all a curious red-brown
orange colour. Down here it
is stony & rather bad going for
camels' soft feet. All the same
I believe I could have done the

whole distance easily in a motor-
car! ⁽²⁹⁾

Bir Sand is three days away to
the S.E. in khafs & I am marching
for his camp to-morrow.

The climate here is ripping;
it must be a good deal higher
than one thinks, but my aneroid
^{I know} is hopelessly bad, giving 3600' ^{where}
the boiling pt. thermometer gives about
1800'. I shall have a lot to add to
the map of these parts, though it
is extraordinary how close Hunt's
map gives these places. The same
last year is the only European before

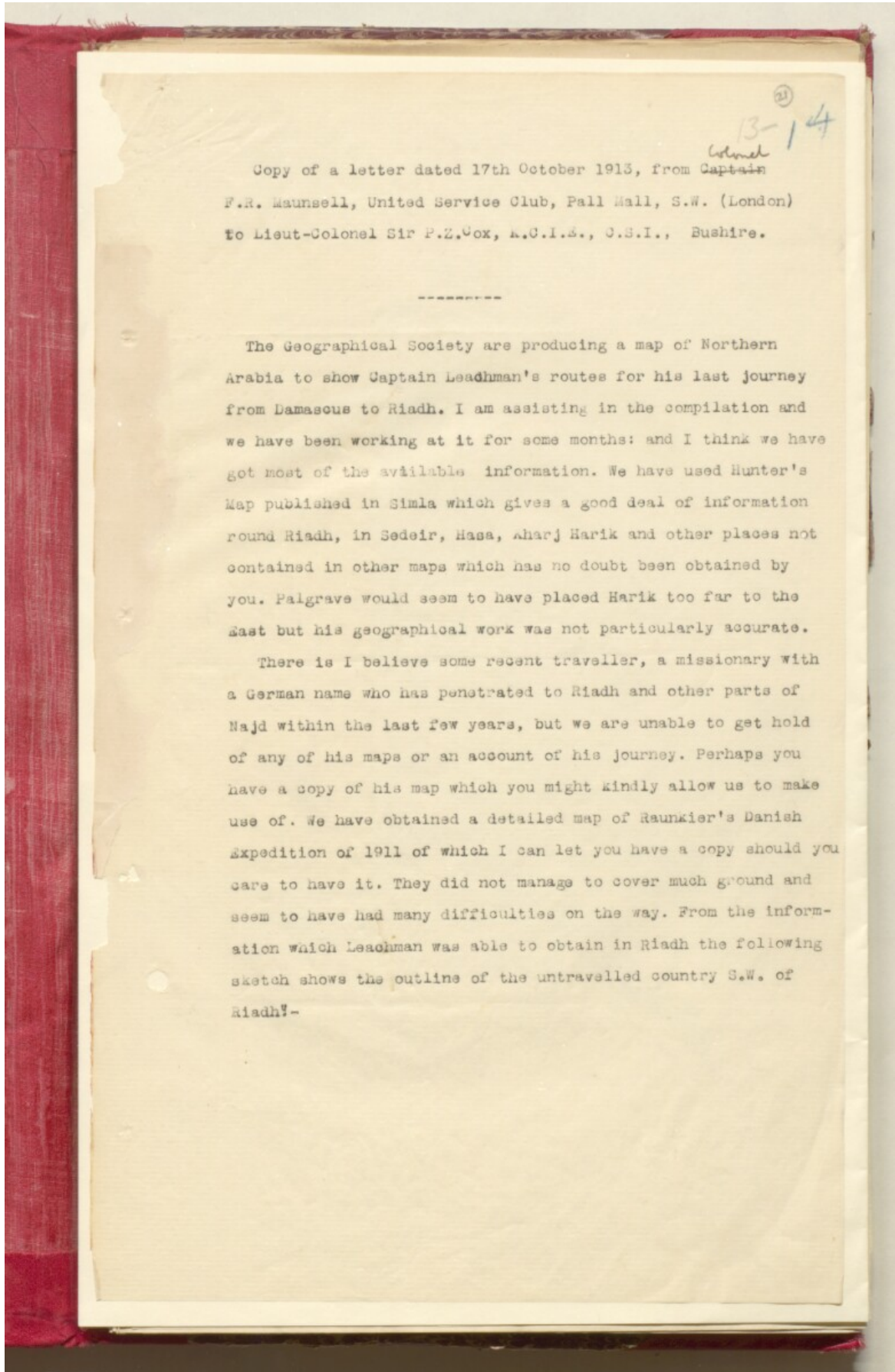


me to visit Majma'a. The people
are worse Wahabis than the Riadh
people, so Bin Askar tells me &
he ought to know! He led me about
by the hand, like Bengali baboos
go about & it must have looked comic
with him in Arab kit & this child
in jodhpores & a topi!

I doubt whether I can get a
post from Kuwait to meet me
until about the 16th April by which
date I believe I shall ^{have} 4 mails due
to me. However, so far, everything
has gone quite O.K.

Yours sincerely

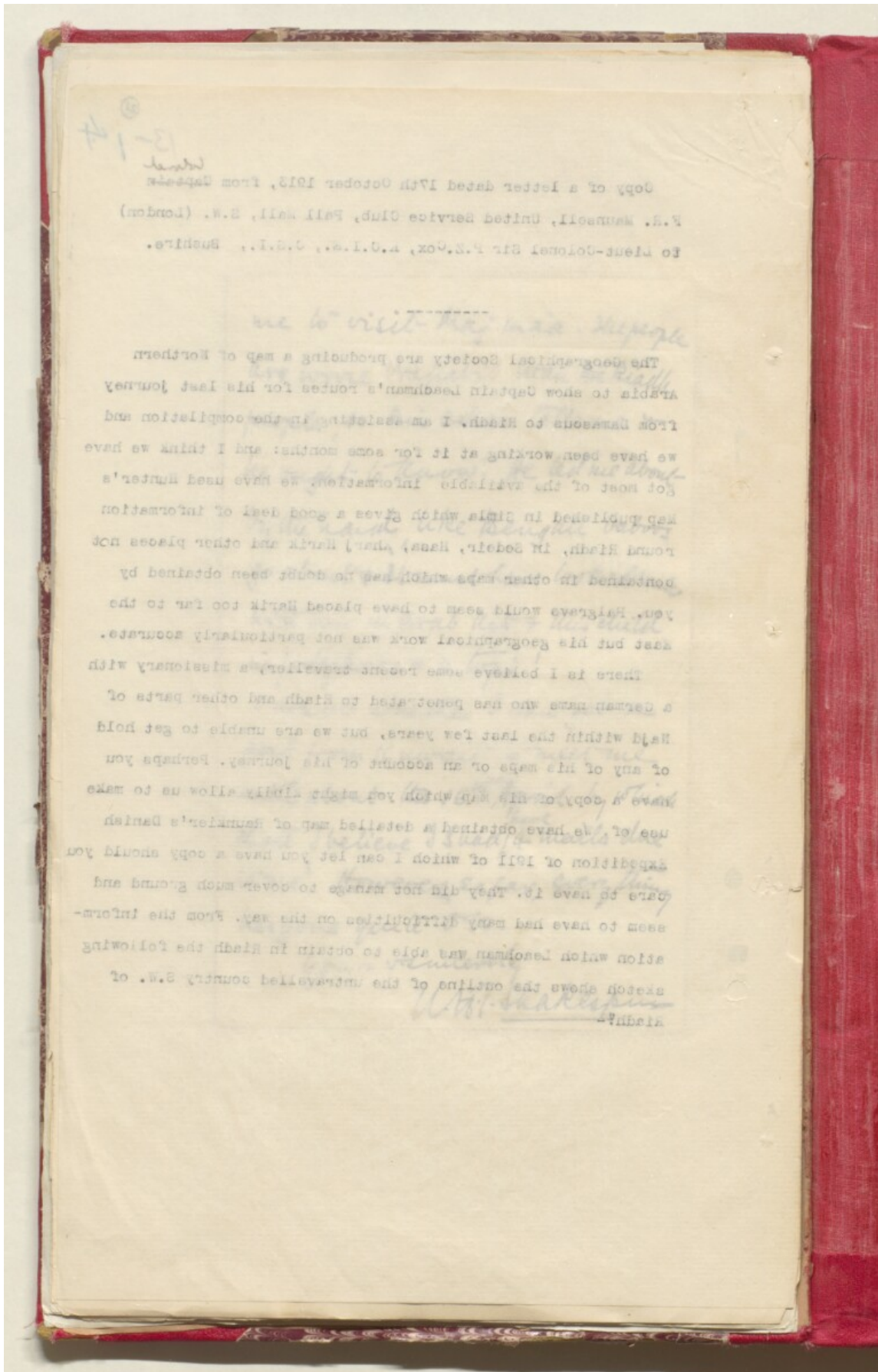
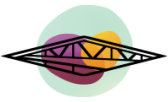
W.H. Shakespeare

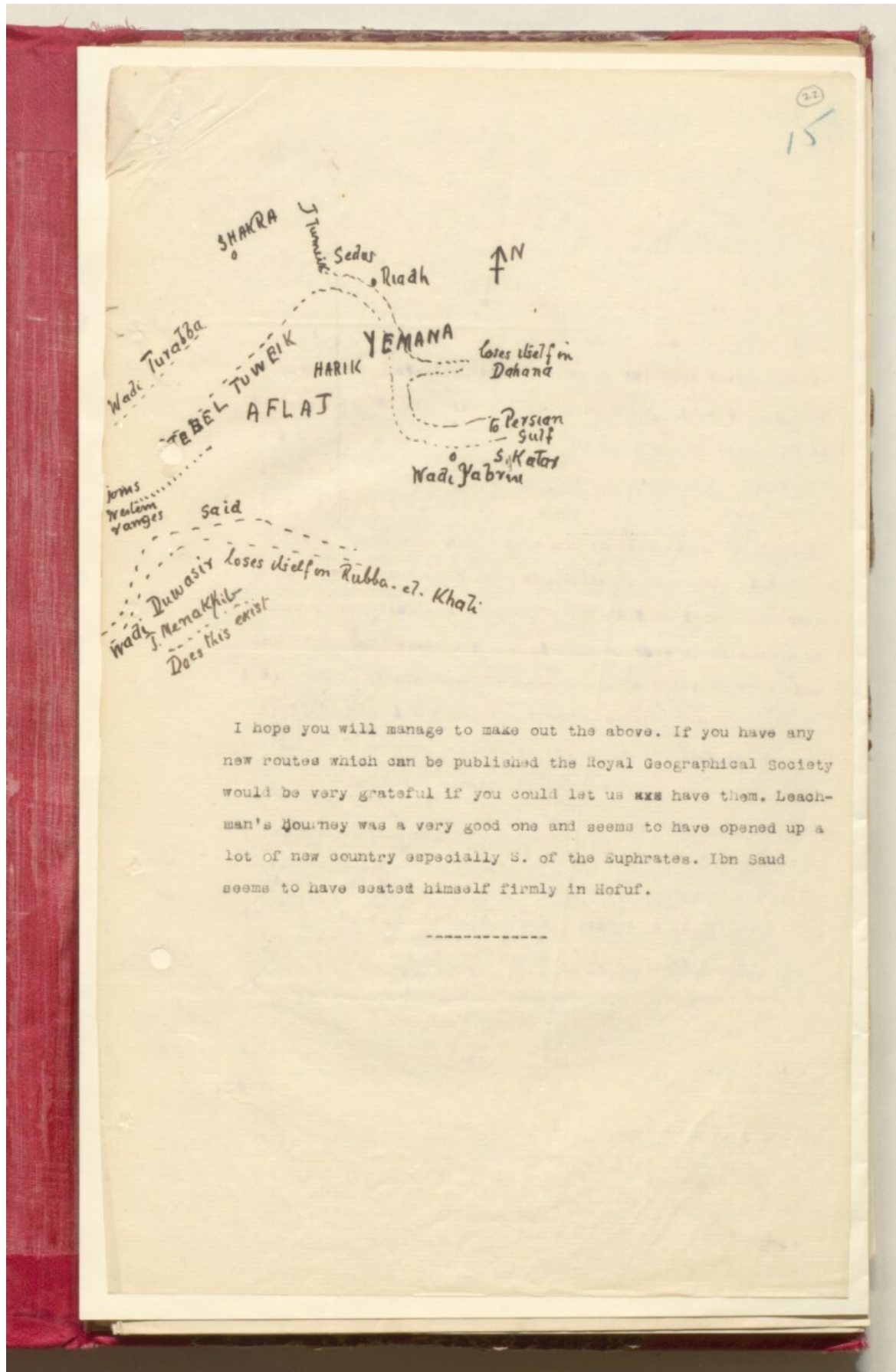


Copy of a letter dated 17th October 1913, from ^{Colonel} Captain
F.R. Maunsell, United Service Club, Pall Mall, S.W. (London)
to Lieut-Colonel Sir P.Z. Cox, K.C.I.B., C.S.I., Bushire.

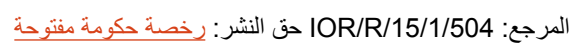
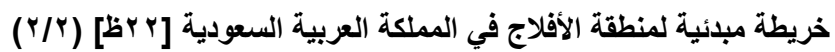
The Geographical Society are producing a map of Northern Arabia to show Captain Leachman's routes for his last journey from Damascus to Riyadh. I am assisting in the compilation and we have been working at it for some months: and I think we have got most of the available information. We have used Hunter's Map published in Simla which gives a good deal of information round Riyadh, in Sedeir, Hasa, Aharij Harik and other places not contained in other maps which has no doubt been obtained by you. Palgrave would seem to have placed Harik too far to the East but his geographical work was not particularly accurate.

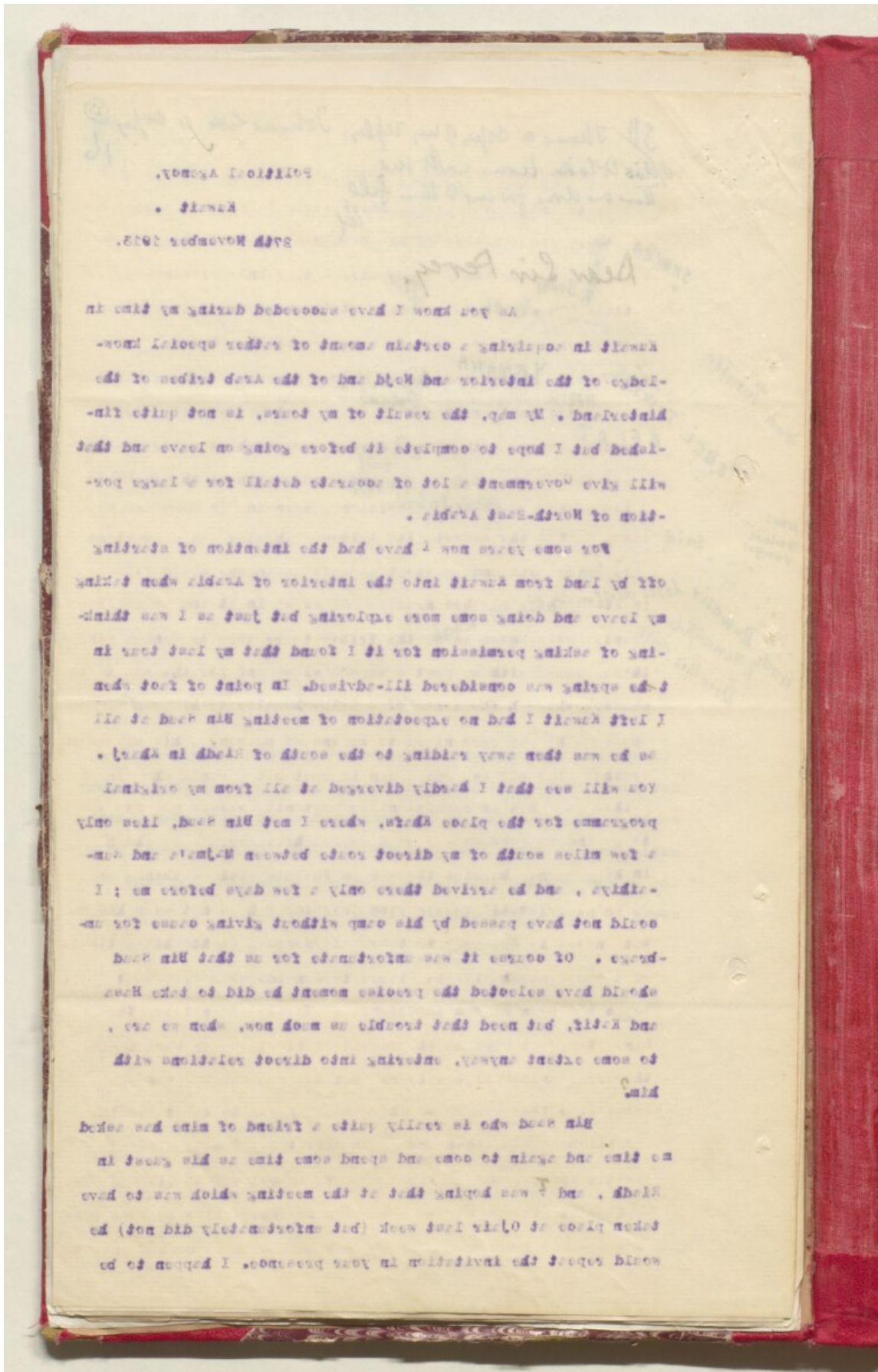
There is I believe some recent traveller, a missionary with a German name who has penetrated to Riyadh and other parts of Najd within the last few years, but we are unable to get hold of any of his maps or an account of his journey. Perhaps you have a copy of his map which you might kindly allow us to make use of. We have obtained a detailed map of Raunkier's Danish Expedition of 1911 of which I can let you have a copy should you care to have it. They did not manage to cover much ground and seem to have had many difficulties on the way. From the information which Leachman was able to obtain in Riyadh the following sketch shows the outline of the untraveller country S.W. of Riyadh:-





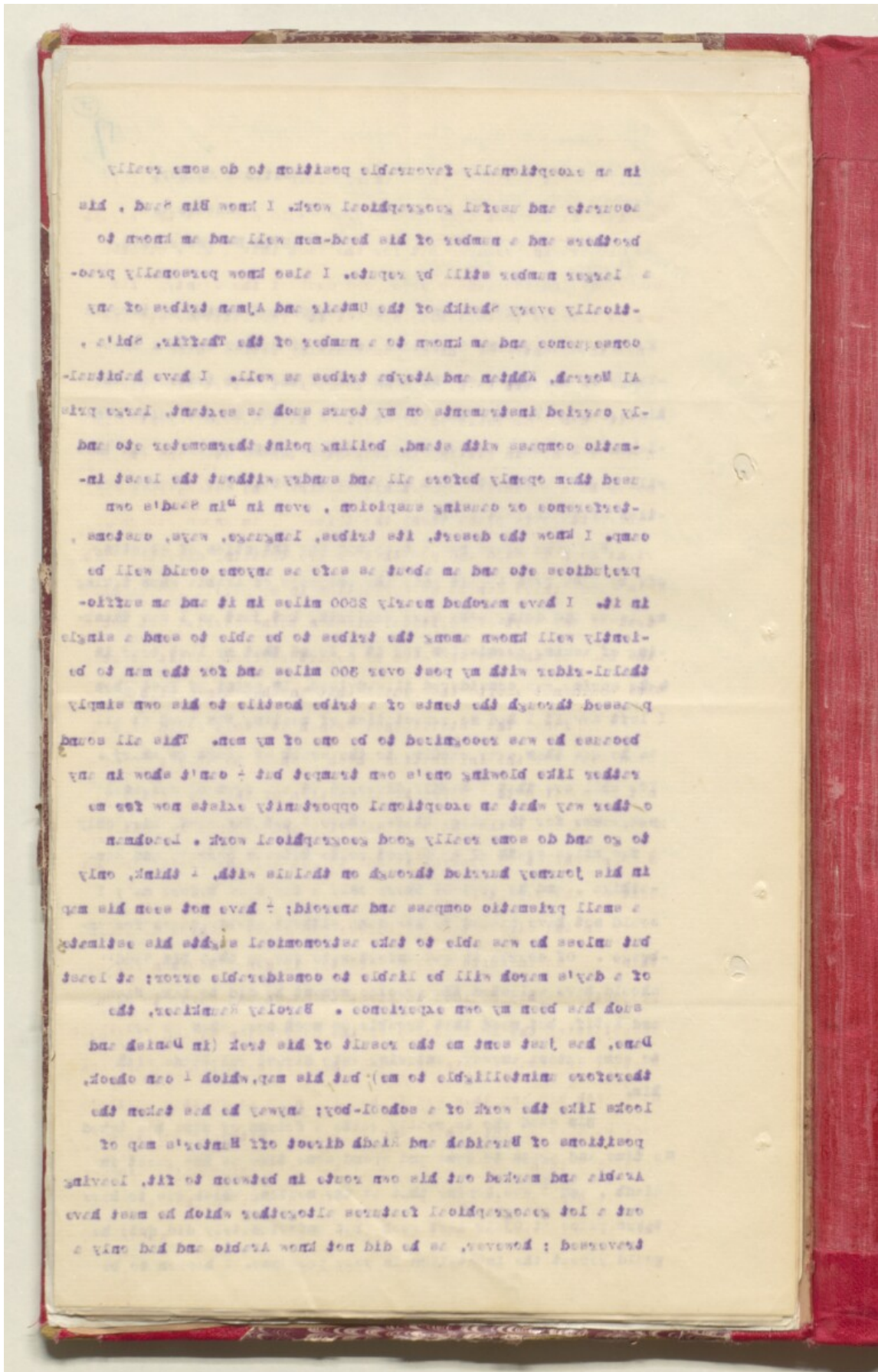
I hope you will manage to make out the above. If you have any new routes which can be published the Royal Geographical Society would be very grateful if you could let us ~~xxx~~ have them. Leachman's Journey was a very good one and seems to have opened up a lot of new country especially S. of the Suphrates. Ibn Saud seems to have seated himself firmly in Hofuf.







17
in an exceptionally favourable position to do some really accurate and useful geographical work. I know Bin Saud, his brothers and a number of his head-men well and am known to a larger number still by repute. I also know personally practically every Sheikh of the Umair and Ajman tribes of any consequence and am known to a number of the Thaffir, Shi'a, Al Morrah, Khattan and Ateyba tribes as well. I have habitually carried instruments on my tours such as sextant, large prismatic compass with stand, boiling point thermometer etc and used them openly before all and sundry without the least interference or causing suspicion, even in Bin Saud's own camp. I know the desert, its tribes, language, ways, customs, prejudices etc and am about as safe as anyone could well be in it. I have marched nearly 2500 miles in it and am sufficiently well known among the tribes to be able to send a single thalul-rider with my post over 300 miles and for the man to be passed through the tents of a tribe hostile to his own simply because he was recognized to be one of my men. This all sounds rather like blowing one's own trumpet but I can't show in any other way what an exceptional opportunity exists now for me to go and do some really good geographical work. Leachman in his journey hurried through on thaluls with, I think, only a small prismatic compass and aneroid; I have not seen his map but unless he was able to take astronomical sights his estimate of a day's march will be liable to considerable error; at least such has been my own experience. Barclay Raunkiaer, the Dane, has just sent me the result of his trek (in Danish and therefore unintelligible to me); but his map, which I can check, looks like the work of a school-boy; anyway he has taken the positions of Baraidah and Riadh direct off Hunter's map of Arabia and marked out his own route in between to fit, leaving out a lot of geographical features altogether which he must have traversed; however, as he did not know Arabic and had only a





18

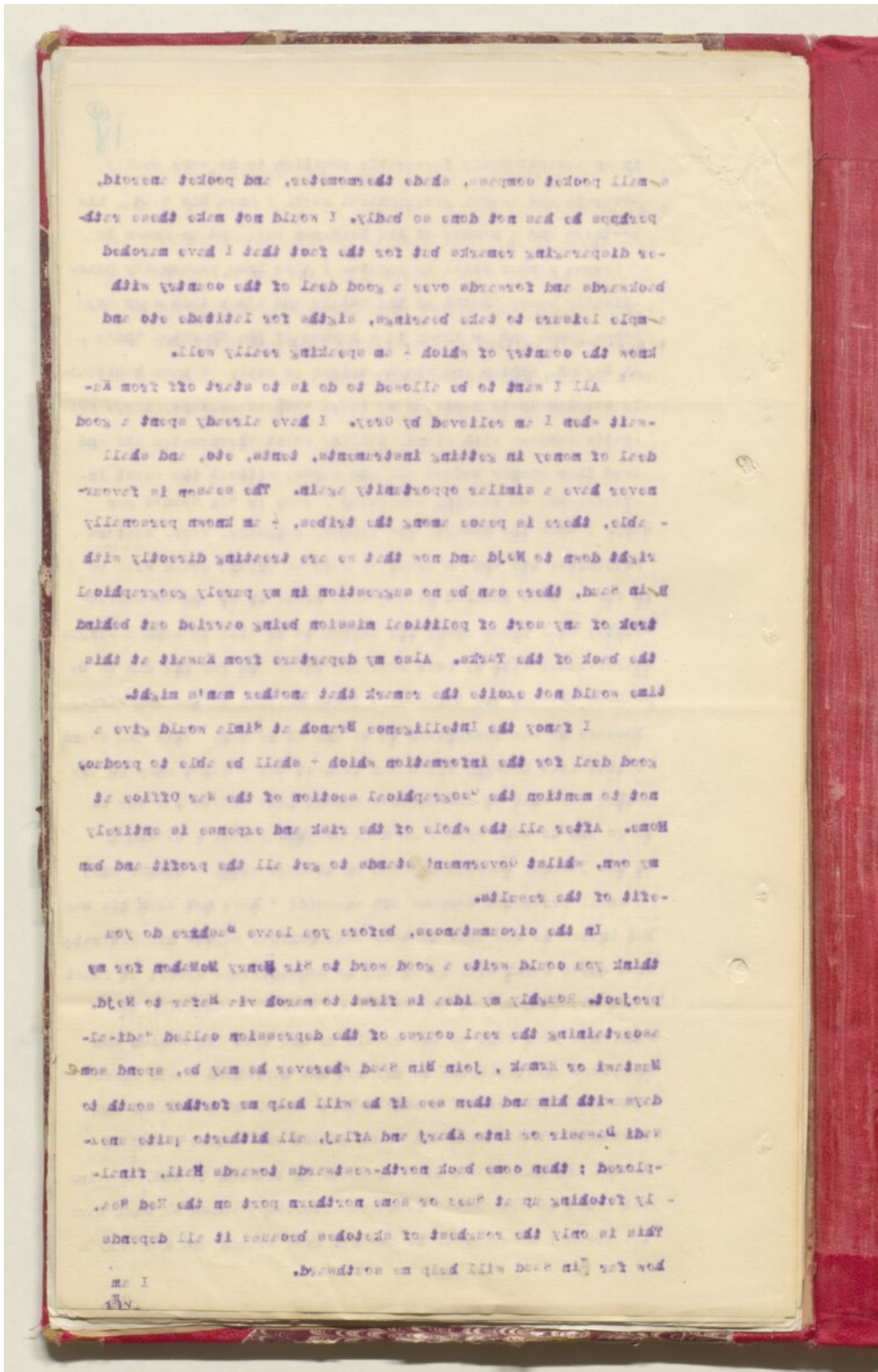
small pocket compass, shade thermometer, and pocket aneroid, perhaps he has not done so badly. I would not make these rather disparaging remarks but for the fact that I have marched backwards and forwards over a good deal of the country with ample leisure to take bearings, sights for latitude etc and know the country of which I am speaking really well.

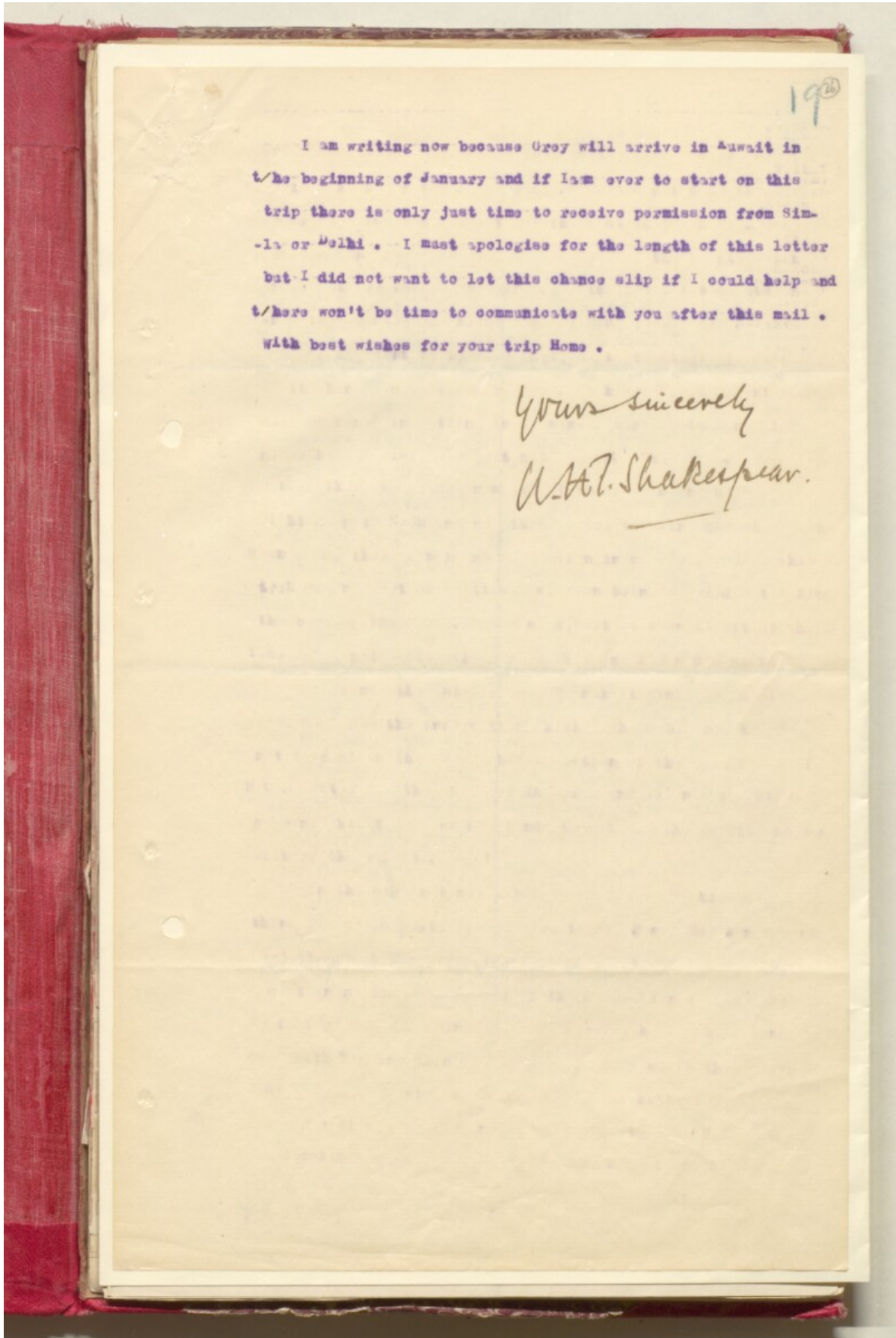
All I want to be allowed to do is to start off from Kuwait when I am relieved by Grey. I have already spent a good deal of money in getting instruments, tents, etc, and shall never have a similar opportunity again. The season is favourable, there is peace among the tribes, I am known personally right down to Nejd and now that we are treating directly with Bin Saud, there can be no suggestion in my purely geographical trek of any sort of political mission being carried out behind the back of the Turks. Also my departure from Kuwait at this time would not excite the remark that another man's might.

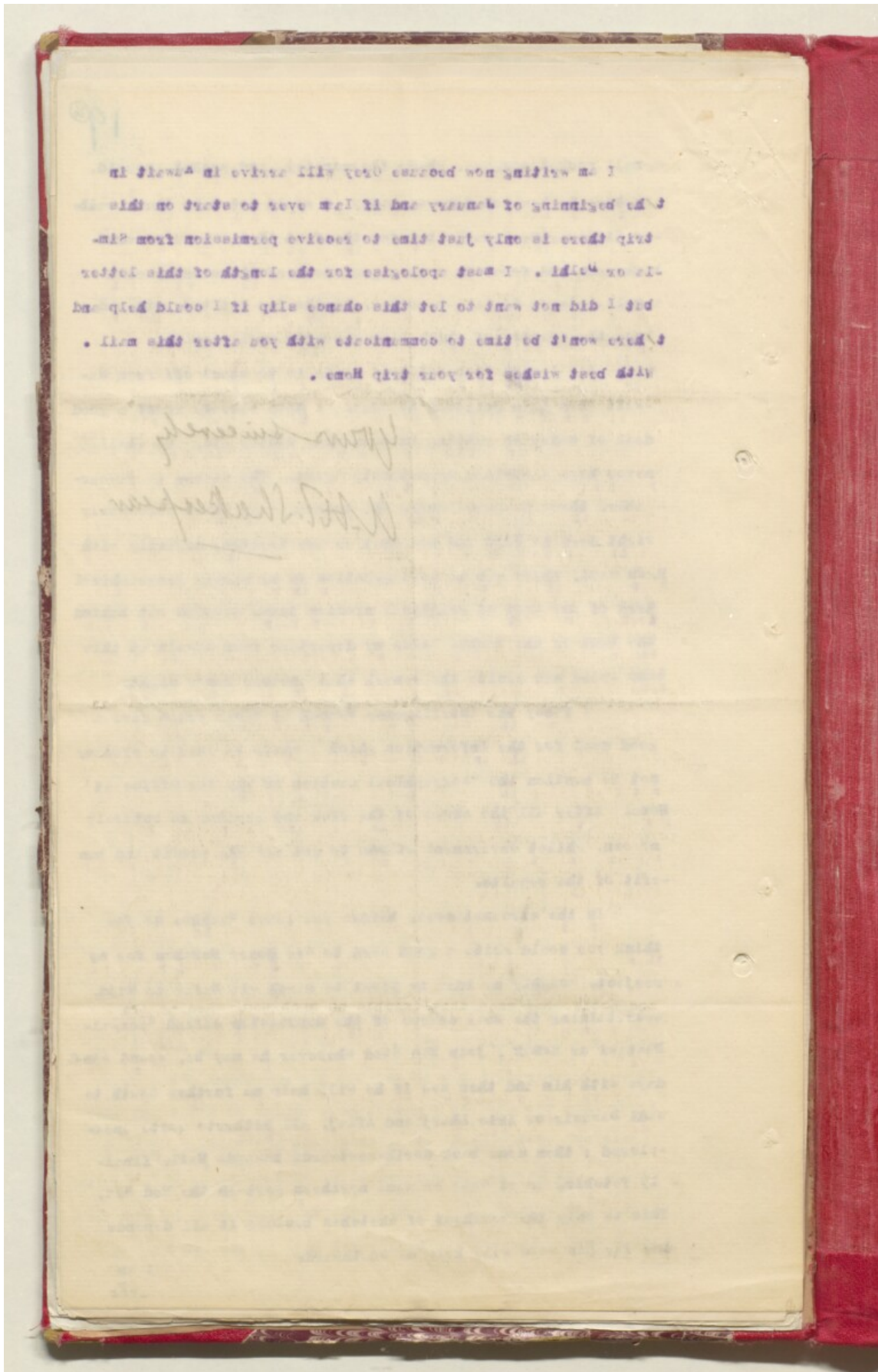
I fancy the Intelligence Branch at Simla would give a good deal for the information which I shall be able to produce not to mention the Geographical section of the War Office at Home. After all the whole of the risk and expense is entirely my own, whilst Government stands to get all the profit and benefit of the results.

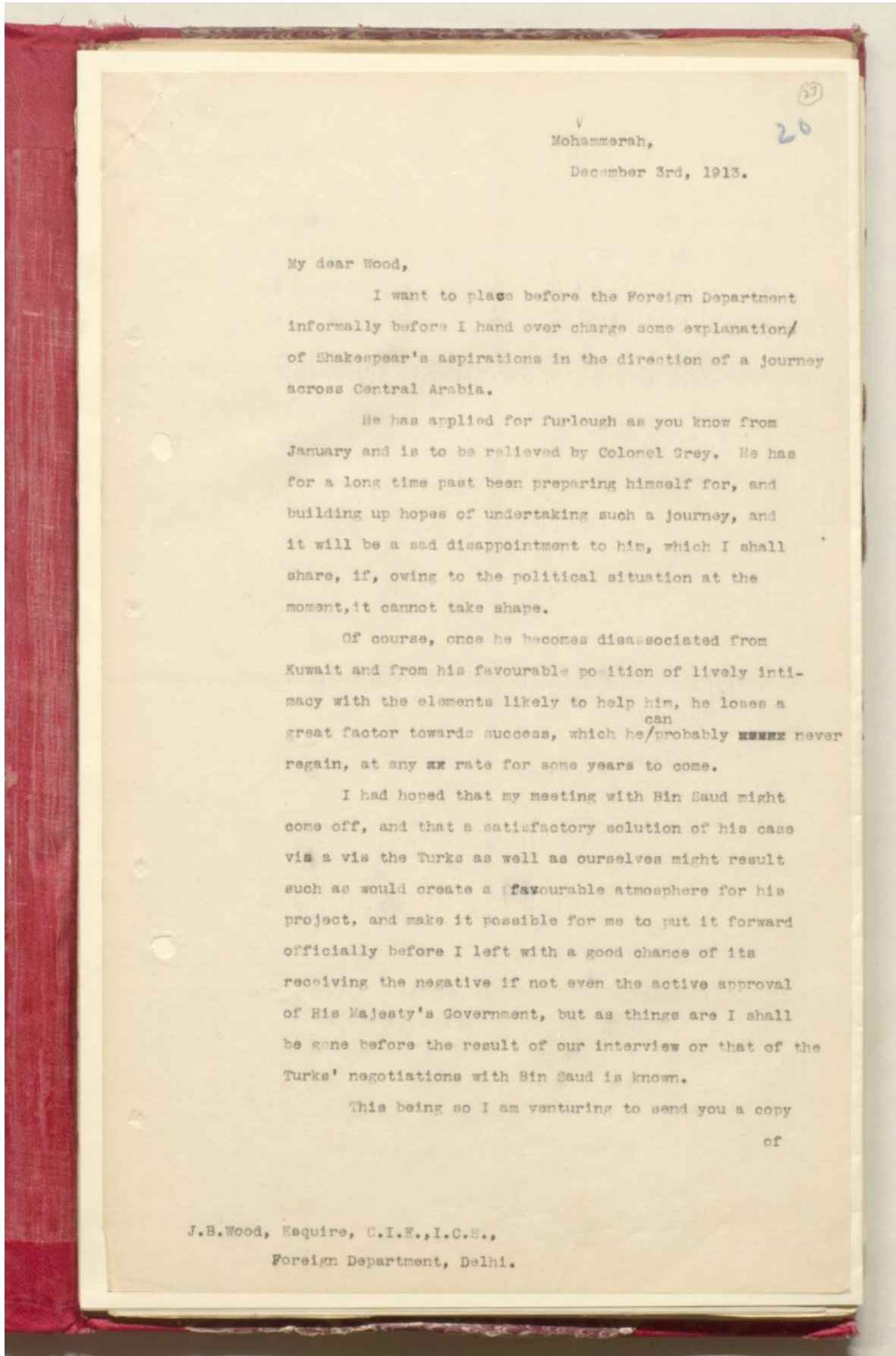
In the circumstances, before you leave Basra do you think you could write a good word to Sir Henry McMahon for my project. Roughly my idea is first to march via Hafar to Nejd, ascertaining the real course of the depression called "adi-al-Mustawi or Ernak", join Bin Saud wherever he may be, spend some days with him and then see if he will help me further south to Wadi Dawasir or into Kharj and Aflaj, all hitherto quite unexplored; then come back north-westwards towards Hail, finally fetching up at Suez or some northern port on the Red Sea. This is only the roughest of sketches because it all depends how far Bin Saud will help me southward.

I am
C.M.









Mohammerah,

December 3rd, 1913.

My dear Wood,

I want to place before the Foreign Department informally before I hand over charge some explanation/ of Shakespear's aspirations in the direction of a journey across Central Arabia.

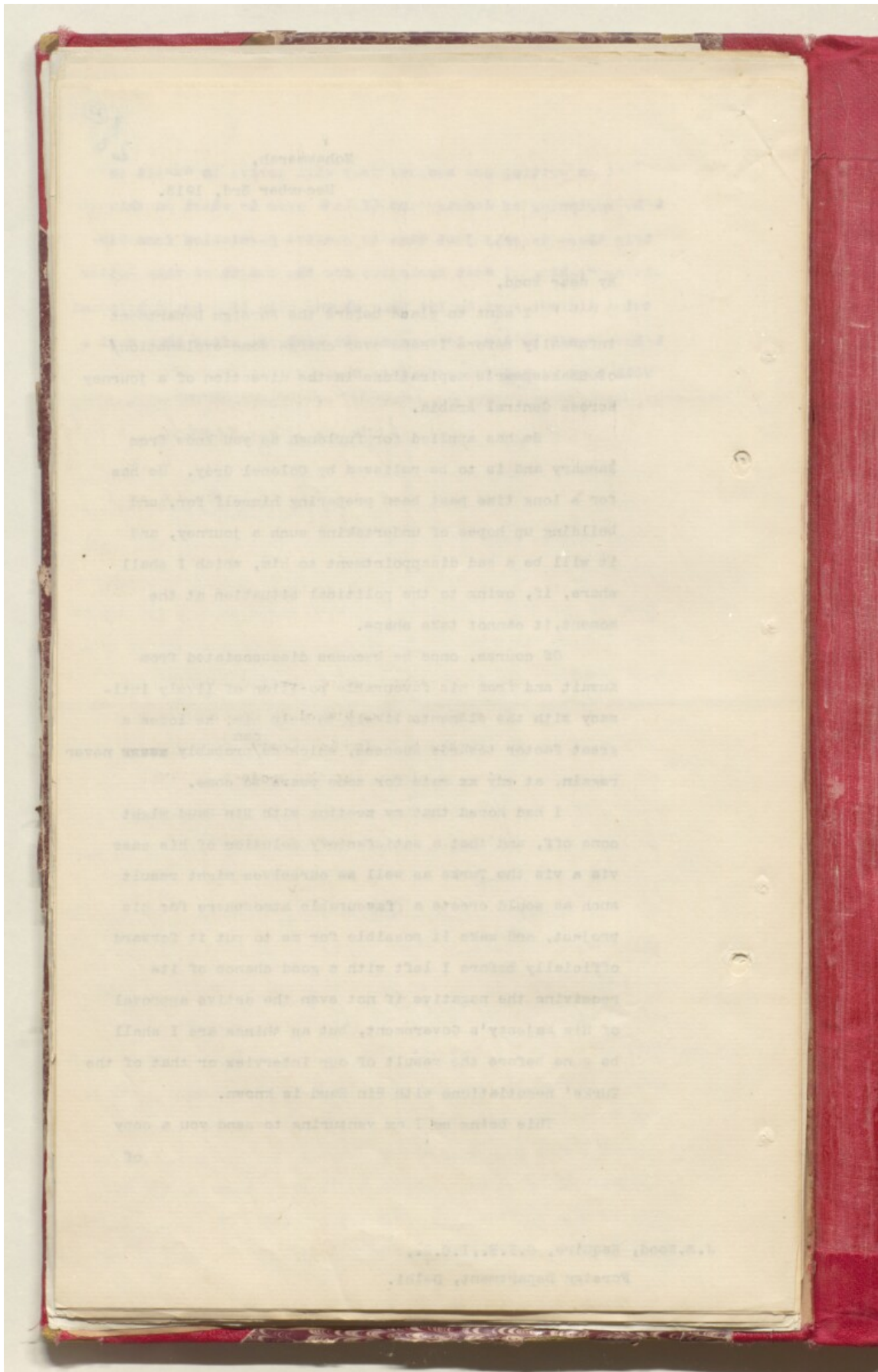
He has applied for furlough as you know from January and is to be relieved by Colonel Grey. He has for a long time past been preparing himself for, and building up hopes of undertaking such a journey, and it will be a sad disappointment to him, which I shall share, if, owing to the political situation at the moment, it cannot take shape.

Of course, once he becomes disassociated from Kuwait and from his favourable position of lively intimacy with the elements likely to help him, he loses a great factor towards success, which he ^{can} probably ~~never~~ never regain, at any ~~xx~~ rate for some years to come.

I had hoped that my meeting with Bin Saud might come off, and that a satisfactory solution of his case via a vis the Turks as well as ourselves might result such as would create a favourable atmosphere for his project, and make it possible for me to put it forward officially before I left with a good chance of its receiving the negative if not even the active approval of His Majesty's Government, but as things are I shall be gone before the result of our interview or that of the Turks' negotiations with Bin Saud is known.

This being so I am venturing to send you a copy
of

J.B. Wood, Esquire, C.I.E., I.C.S.,
Foreign Department, Delhi.





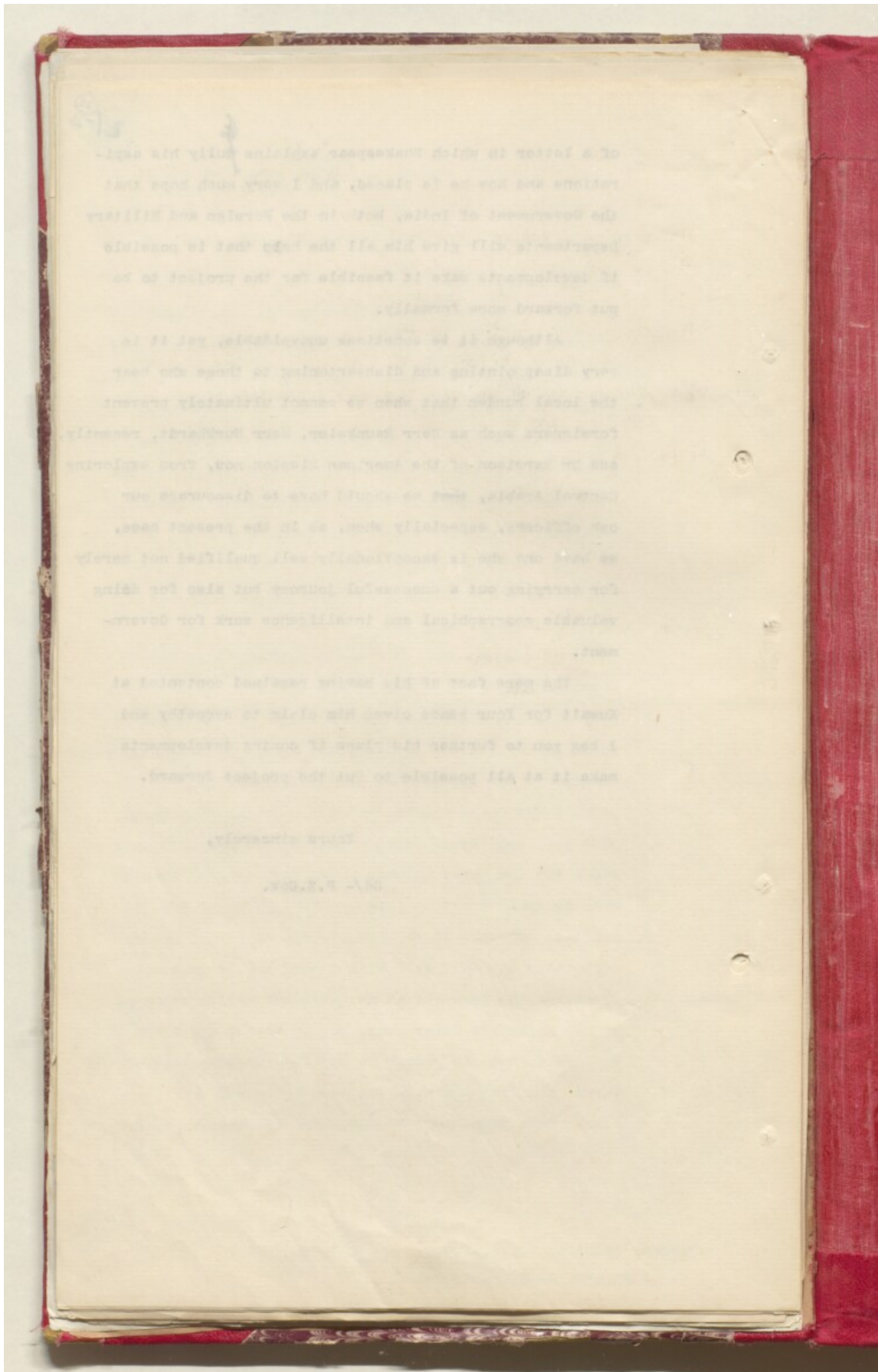
of a letter in which Shakespear explains fully his aspirations and how he is placed, and I very much hope that the Government of India, both in the Foreign and Military Departments will give him all the help that is possible if developments make it feasible for the project to be put forward more formally.

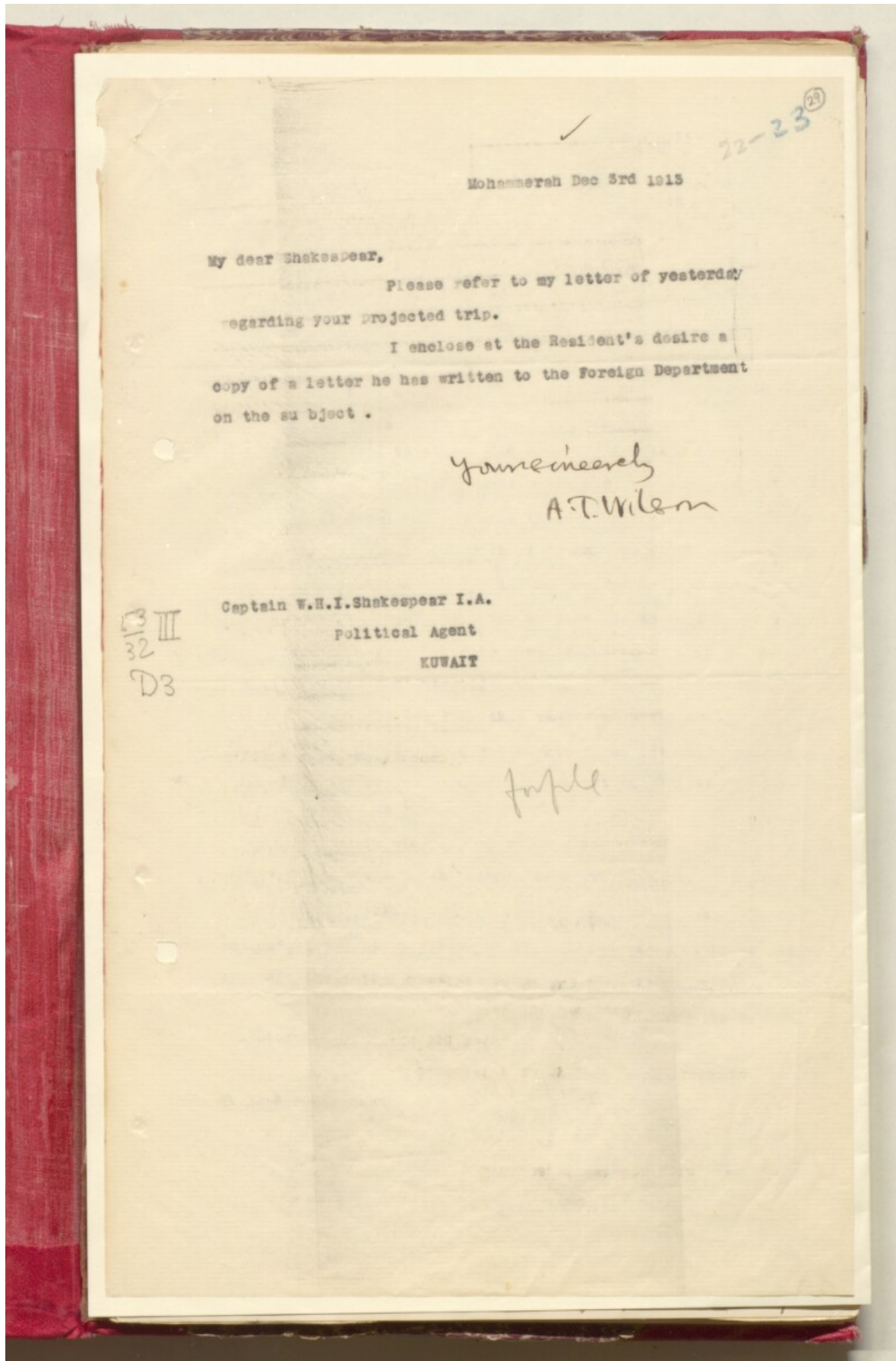
Although it is sometimes unavoidable, yet it is very disappointing and disheartening to those who bear the local burden that when we cannot ultimately prevent foreigners such as Herr Raunkaier, Herr Burkhardt, recently, and Dr Harrison of the American Mission now, from exploring Central Arabia, that we should have to discourage our own officers, especially when, as in the present case, we have one who is exceptionally well qualified not merely for carrying out a successful journey but also for doing valuable geographical and intelligence work for Government.

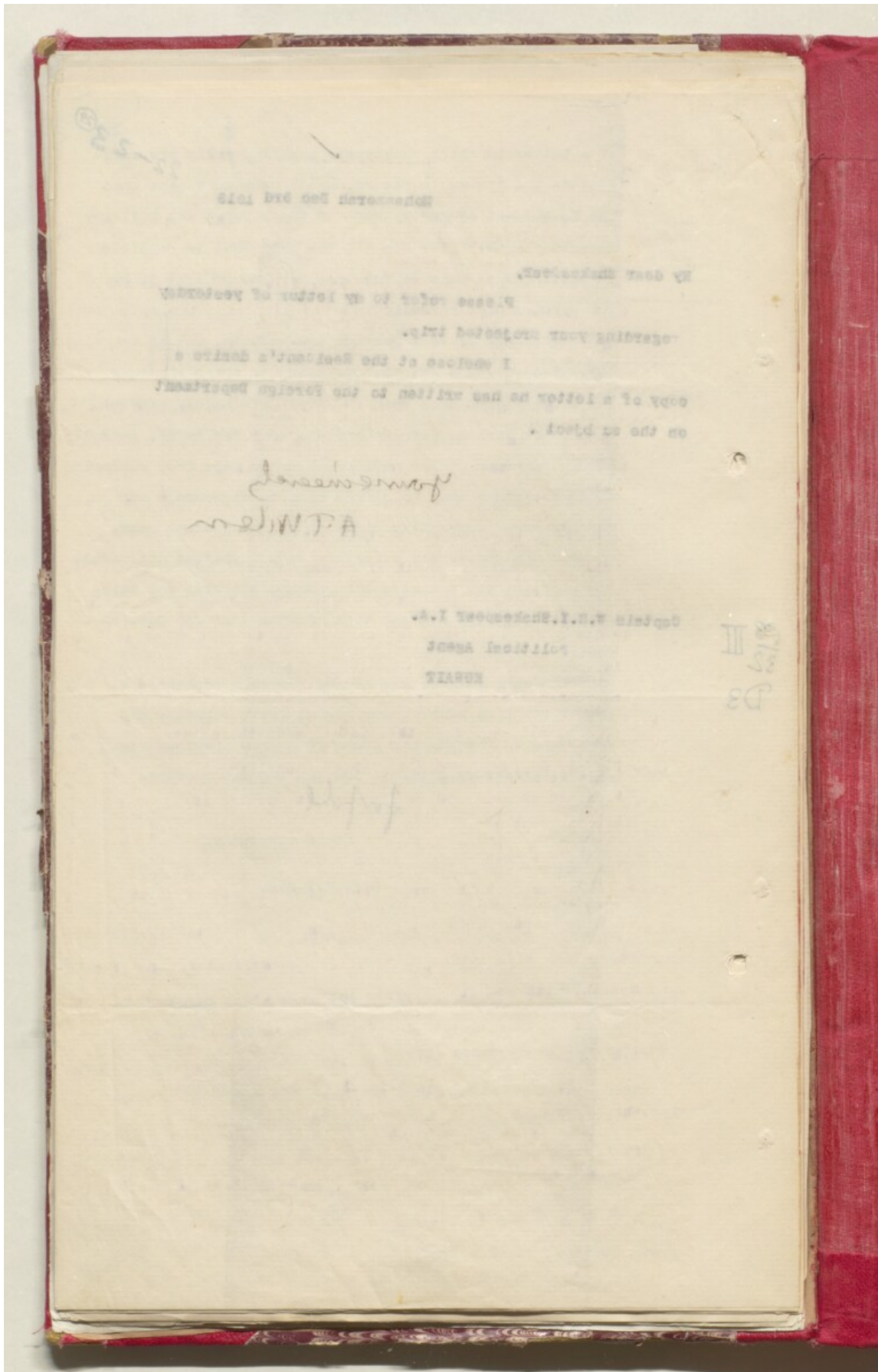
The mere fact of his having remained contented at Kuwait for four years gives him claim to sympathy and I beg you to further his plans if coming developments make it at all possible to put the project forward.

Yours sincerely,

Sd/- P.Z.Cox.









British Agency,

Kuwait.

24th December 1913.

Dear Mr. Lorimer,

Sir Percy Cox may have told you of my desire to trek across Central Arabia from Kuwait, when taking my leave and I am asking now for the necessary permission from Government.

I have delayed applying before as I was engaged down at Bahrein at the recent interview with Bin Saud, and I wanted to make sure that he would have no objection to my project. I asked him, explaining that I would be on leave and not a British official on tour, and that my object was to see Central Arabia particularly south of Rindh. He invited me to come as soon as I liked and to stay as long as I liked in the most cordial way, even offering to post men to meet me at any particular spots I liked to name, and then to send me on into Ibn Rashid's country afterwards.

You will see from this that I have the chance of a lifetime to do some good geographical and intelligence work (all at my own expense and risk 'bien entendu'!!) if Government will only let me go.

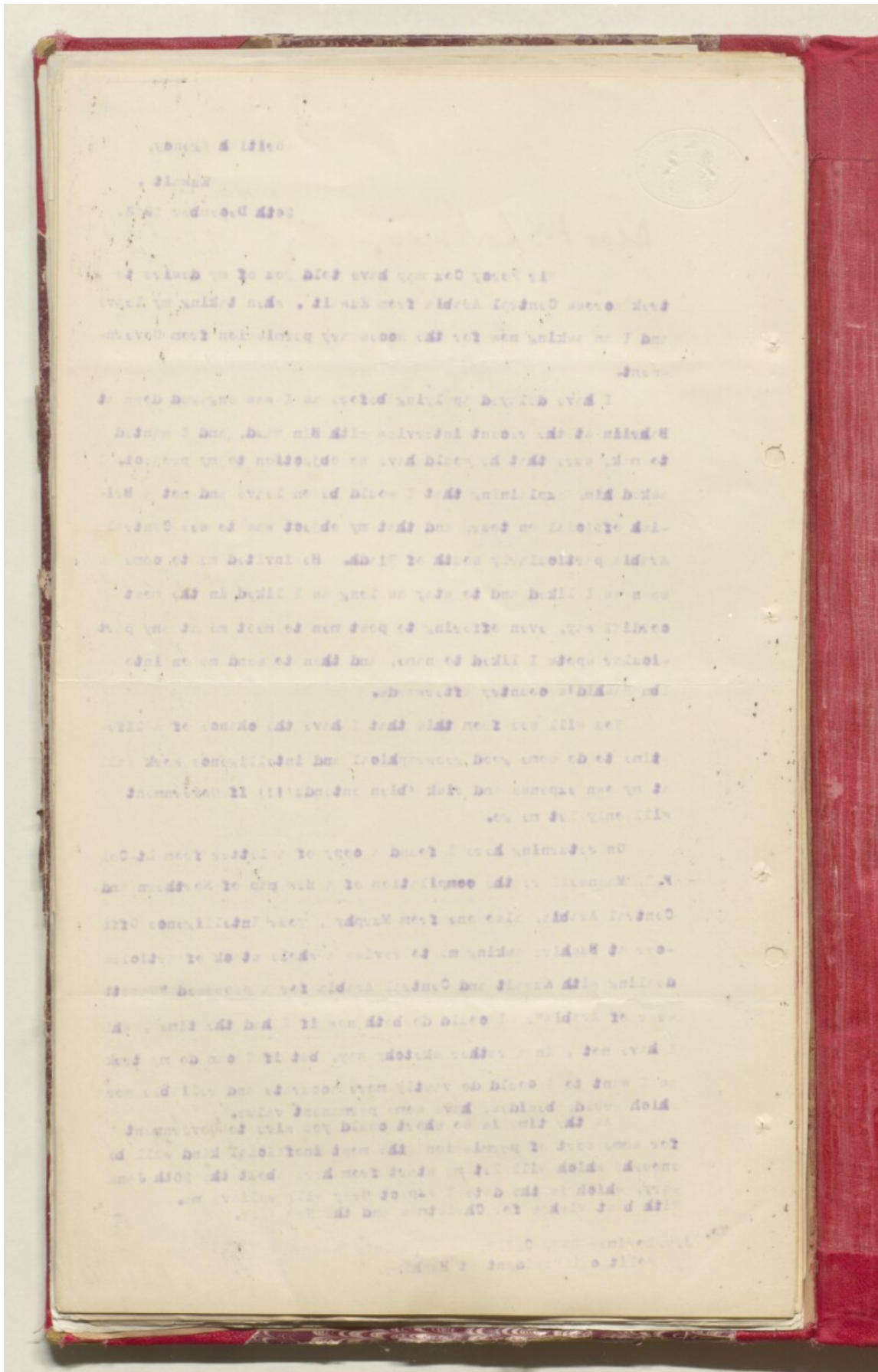
On returning here I found a copy of a letter from Lt-Col F.R. Mansell re the compilation of a new map of Northern and Central Arabia, also one from Murphy, your Intelligence Officer at Bushire asking me to revise a whole stack of articles dealing with Kuwait and Central Arabia for a proposed "Gazette of Arabia". I could do both now if I had the time, which I have not, in a rather sketchy way, but if I can do my trek as I want to I could do vastly more accurate and reliable work which would, besides, have some permanent value.

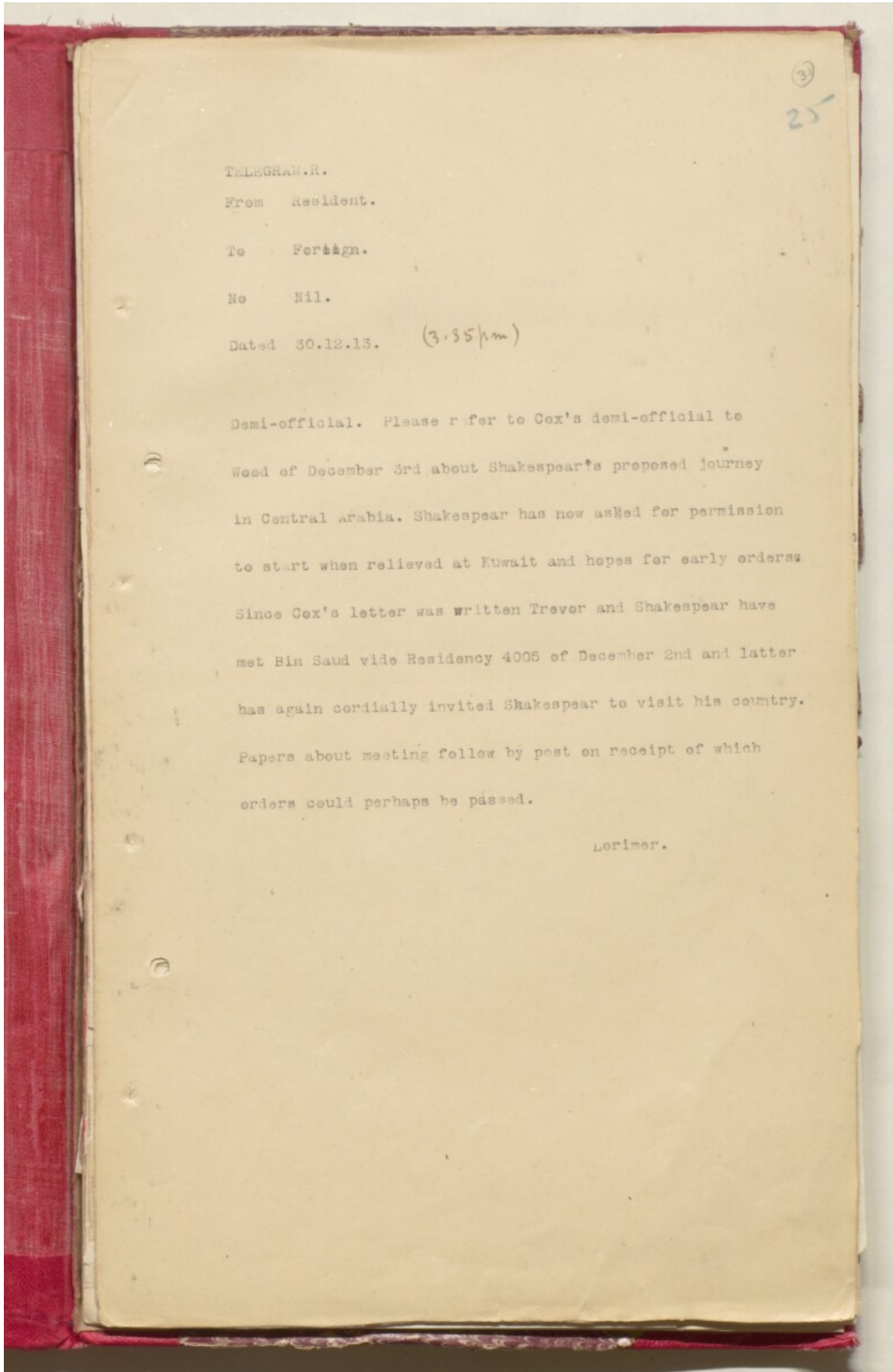
As the time is so short could you wire to Government for some sort of permission (the most unofficial kind will be enough) which will let me start from here about the 20th January, which is the date I expect Grey will relieve me. With best wishes for Christmas and the New Year.

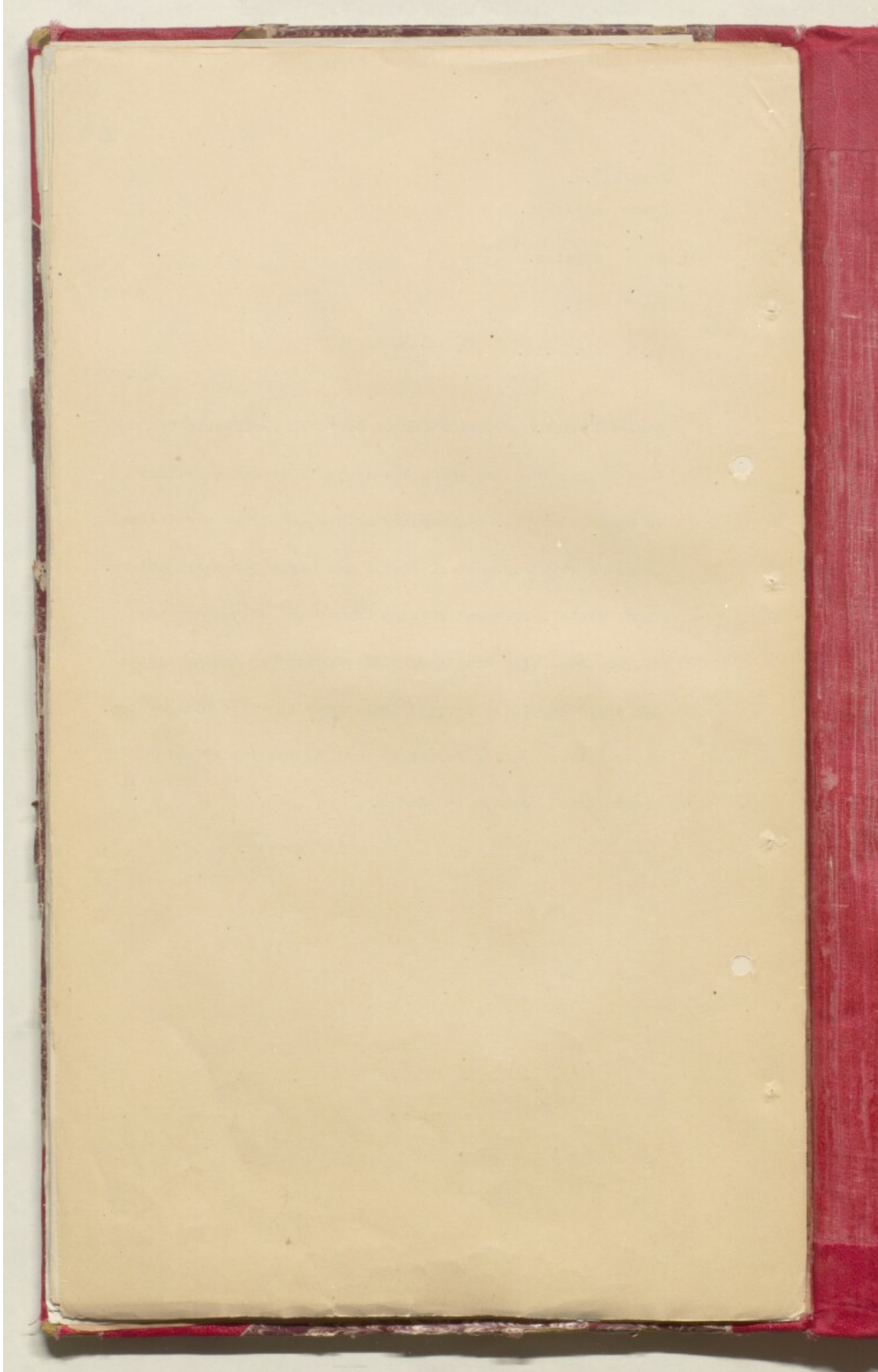
To, J.G. Lorimer Esq, C.I.E.,
Political Resident at Bushire.

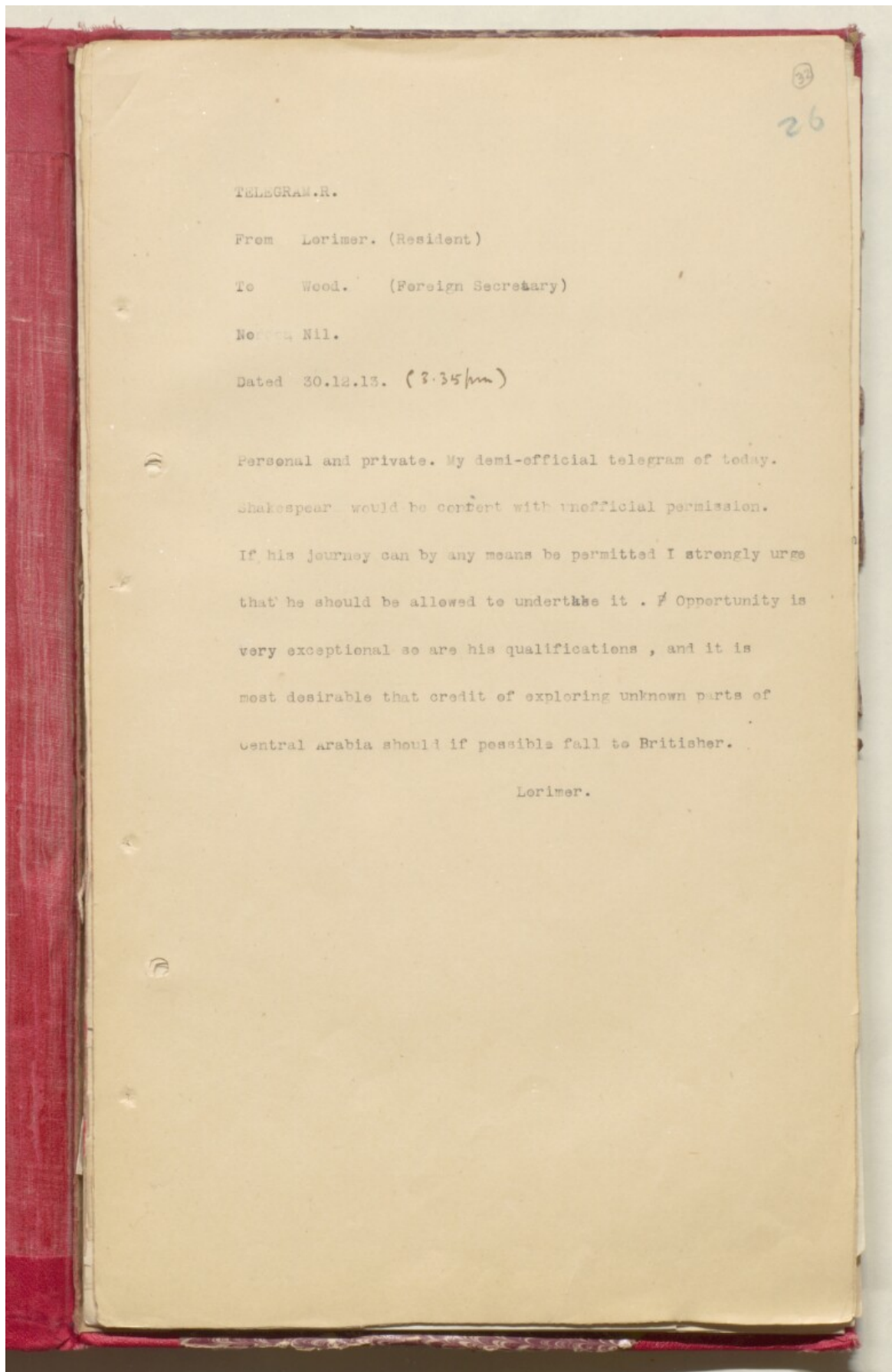
Yours sincerely
W.H. Shakespeare

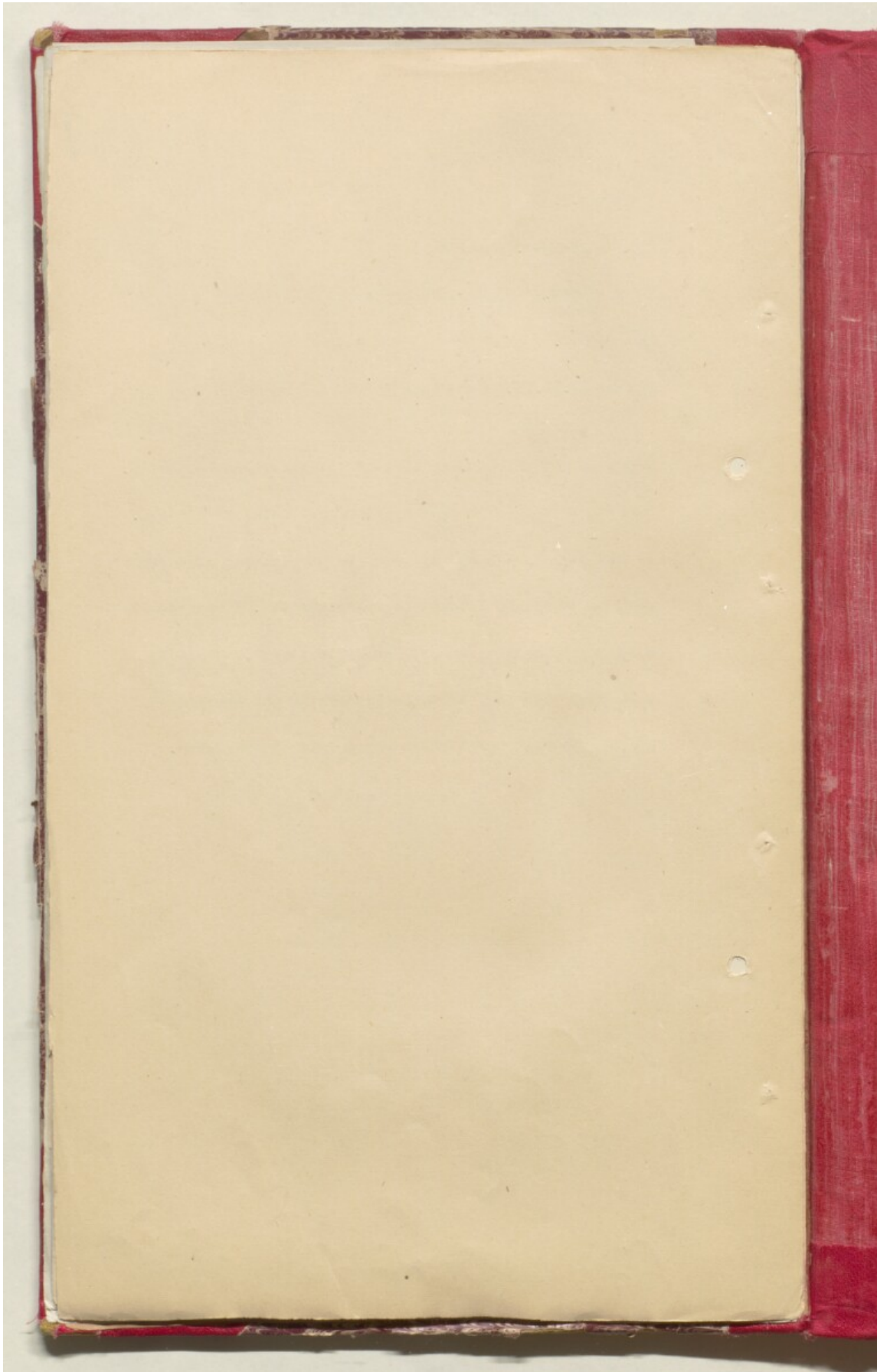
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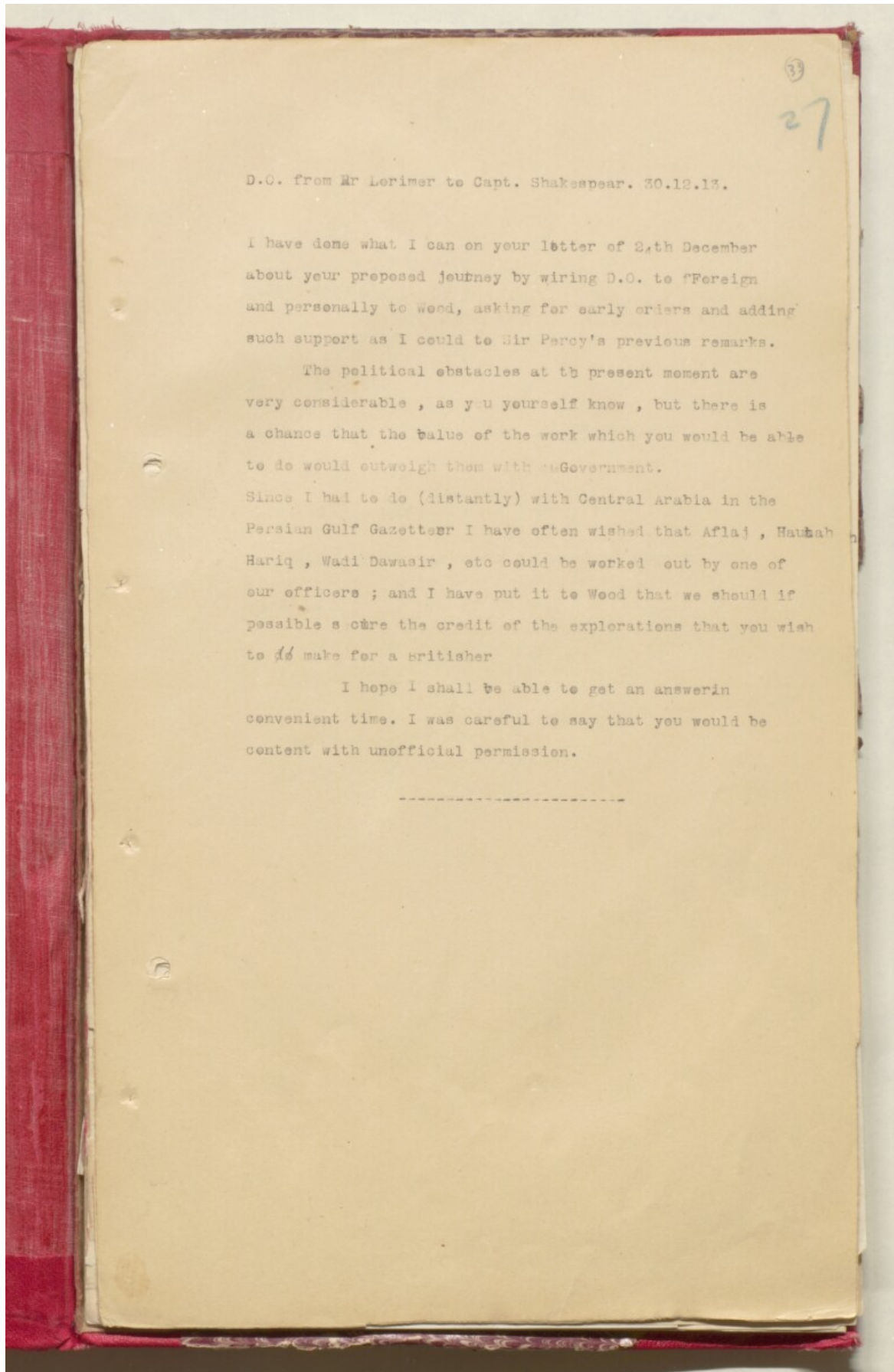


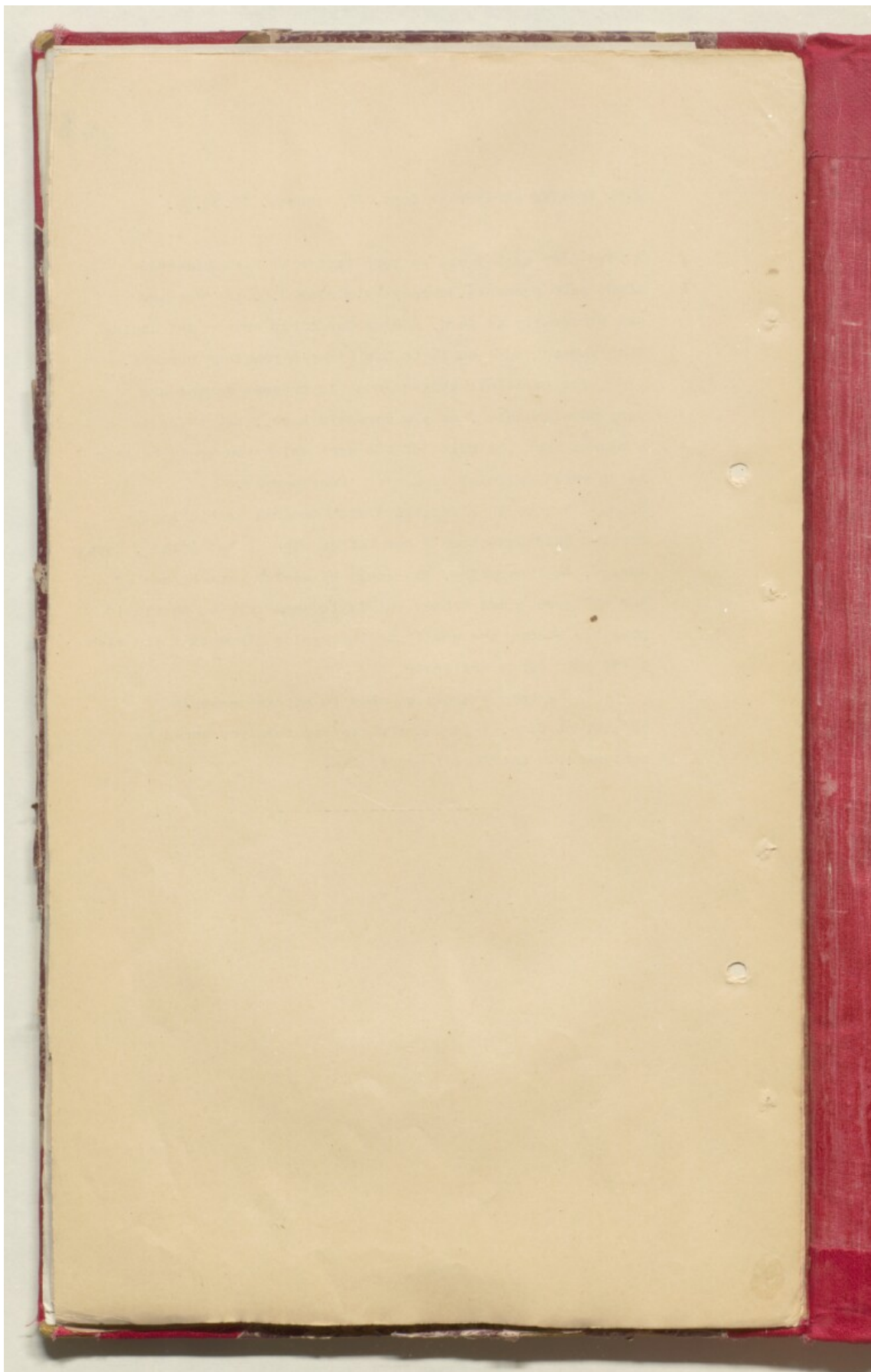


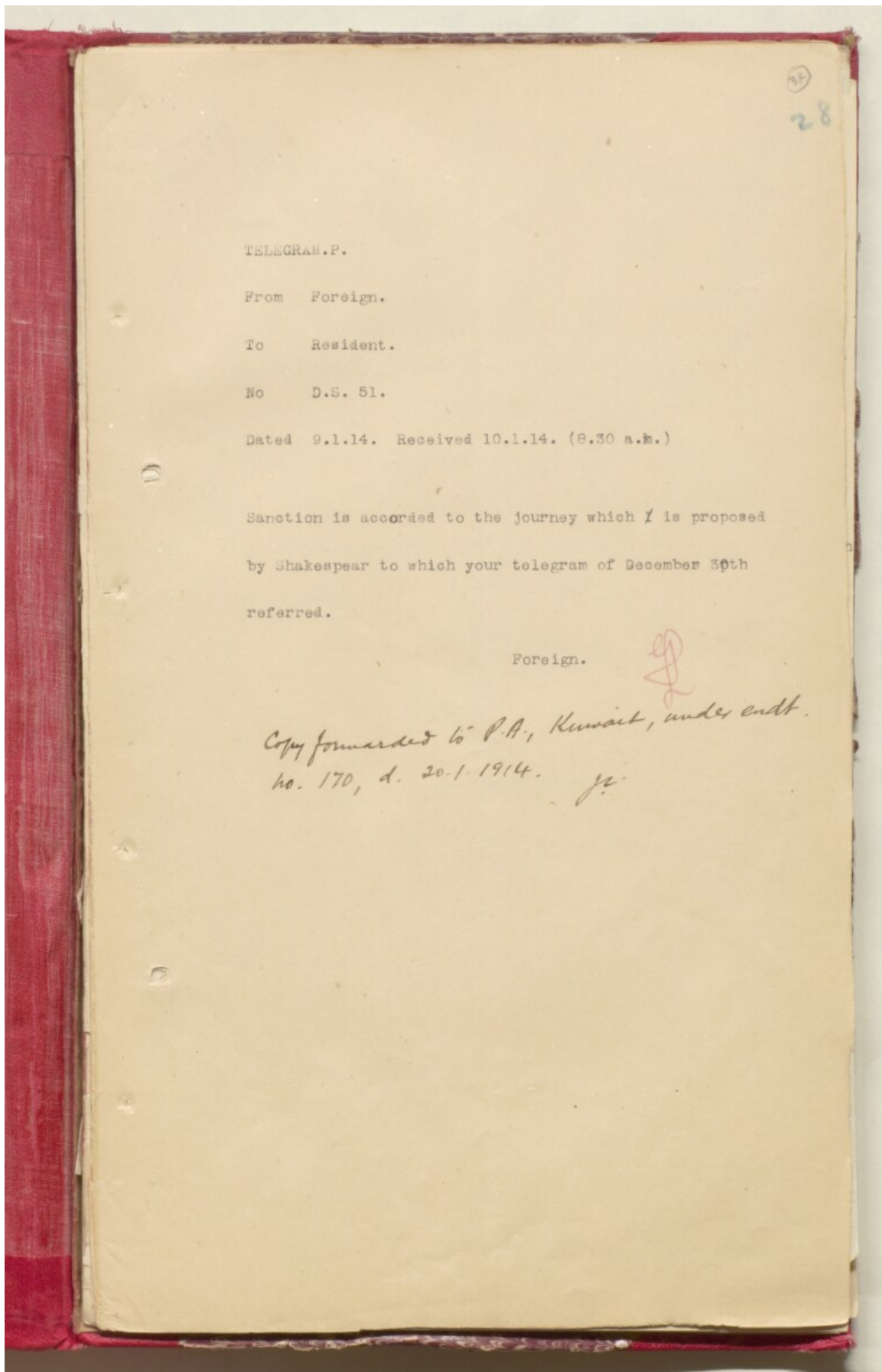


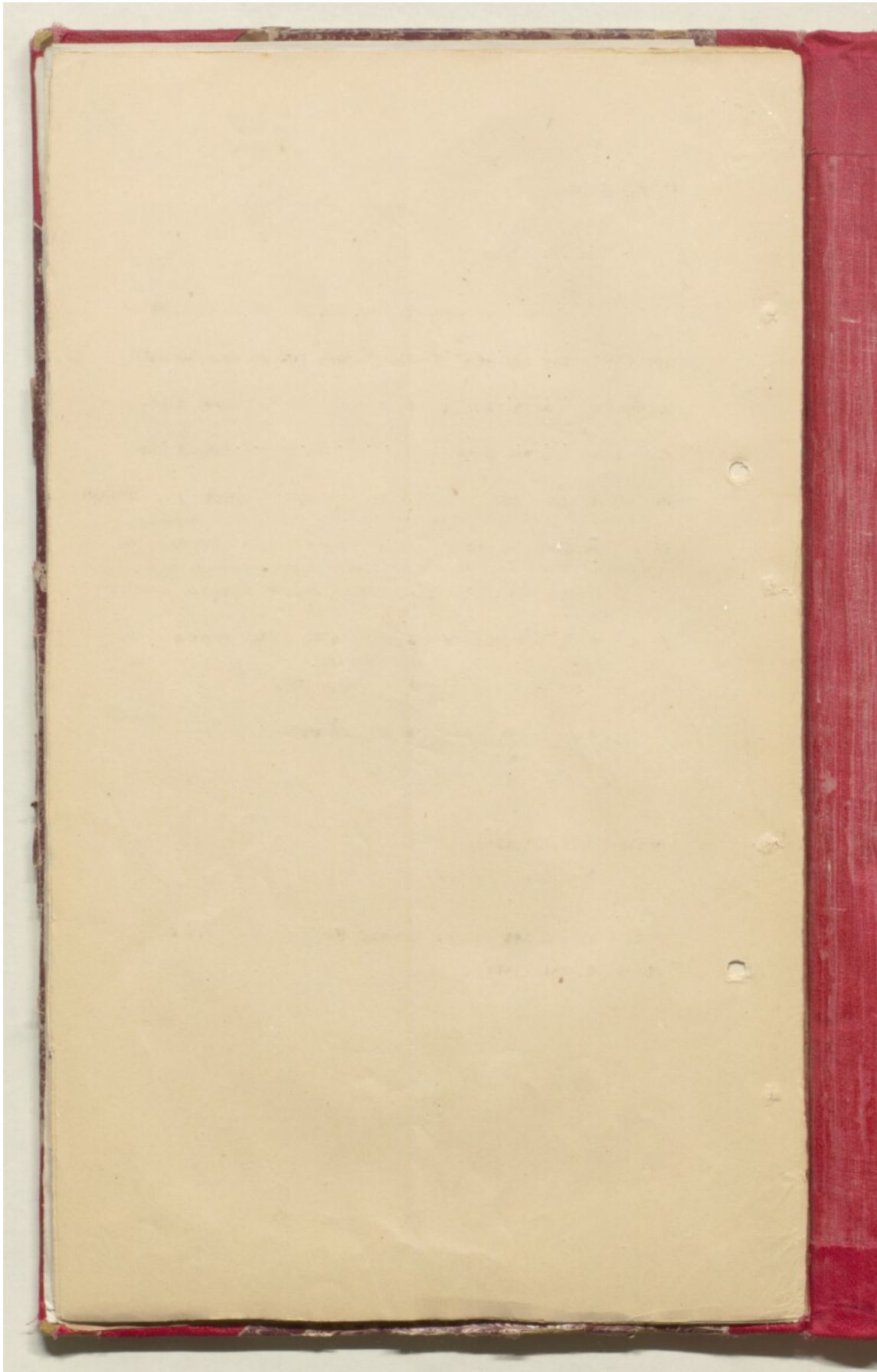


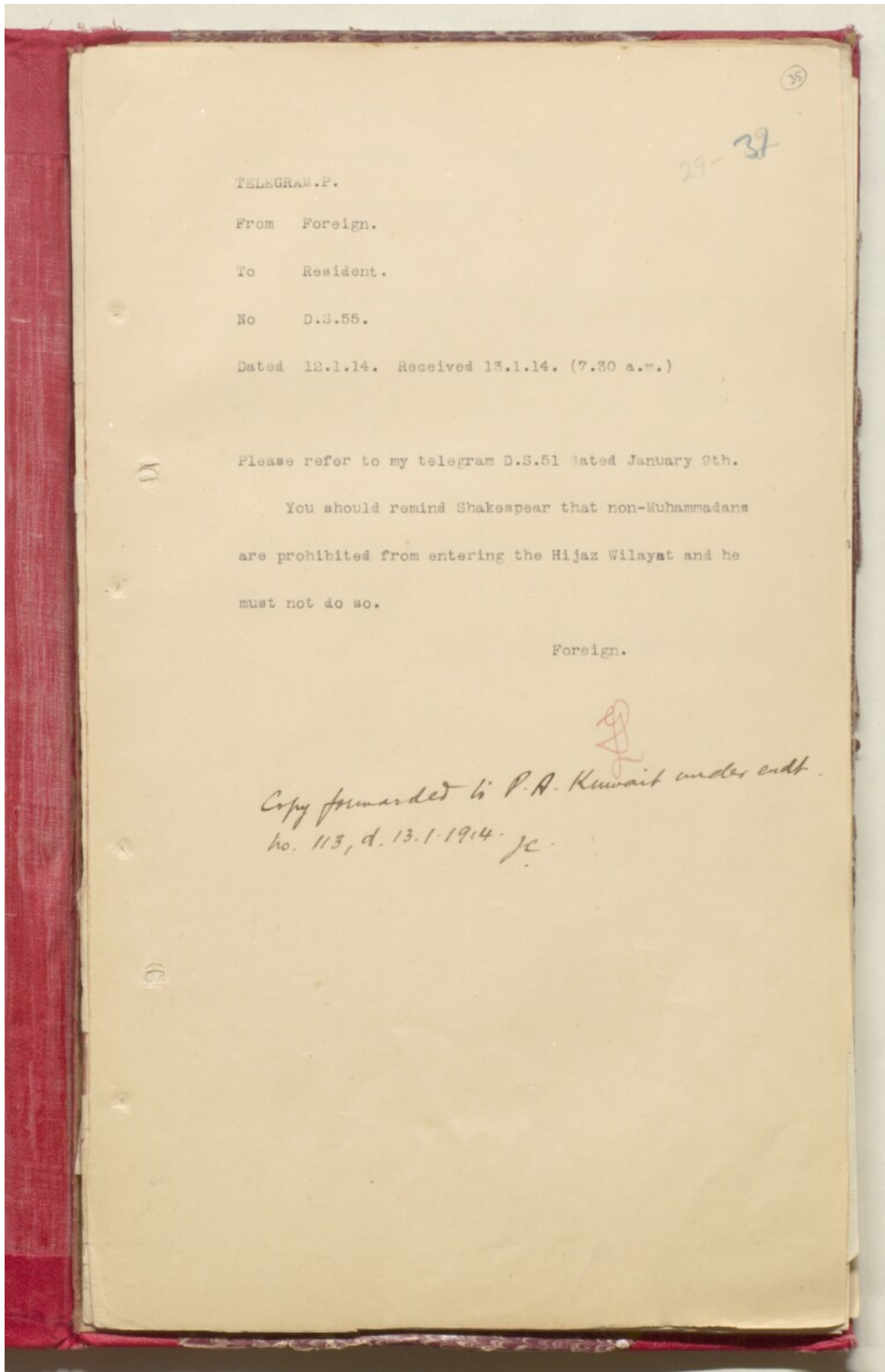


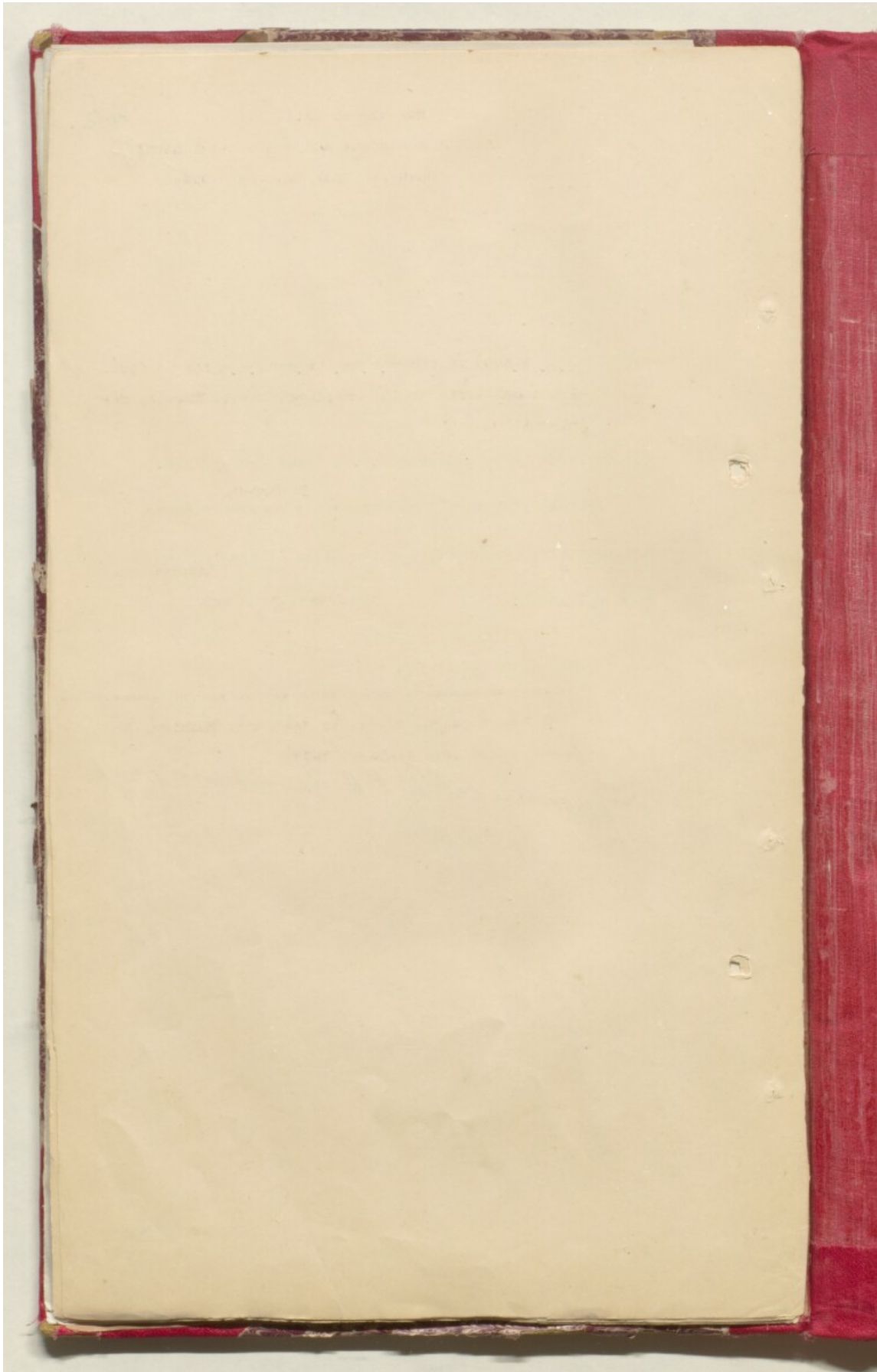


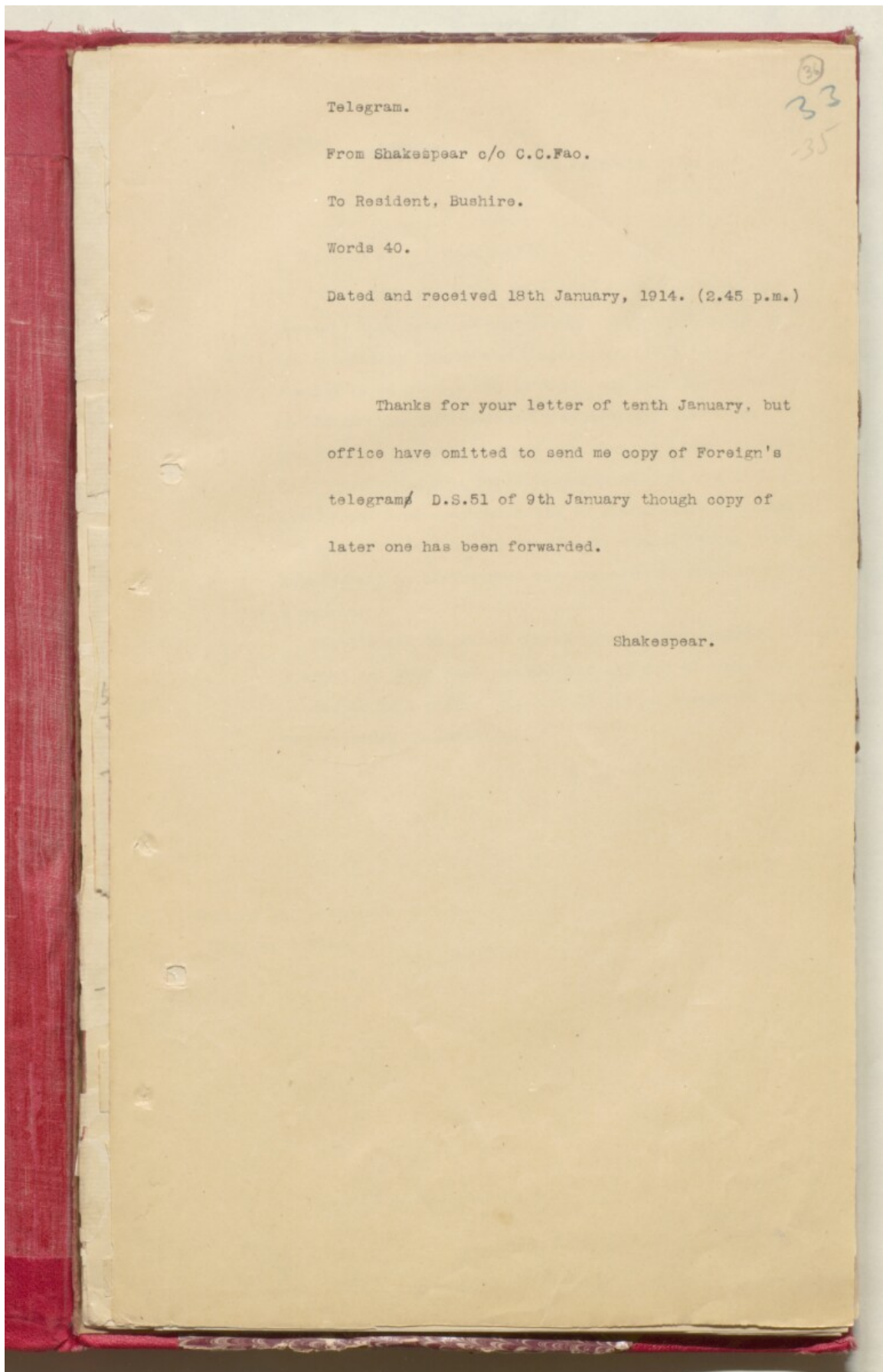


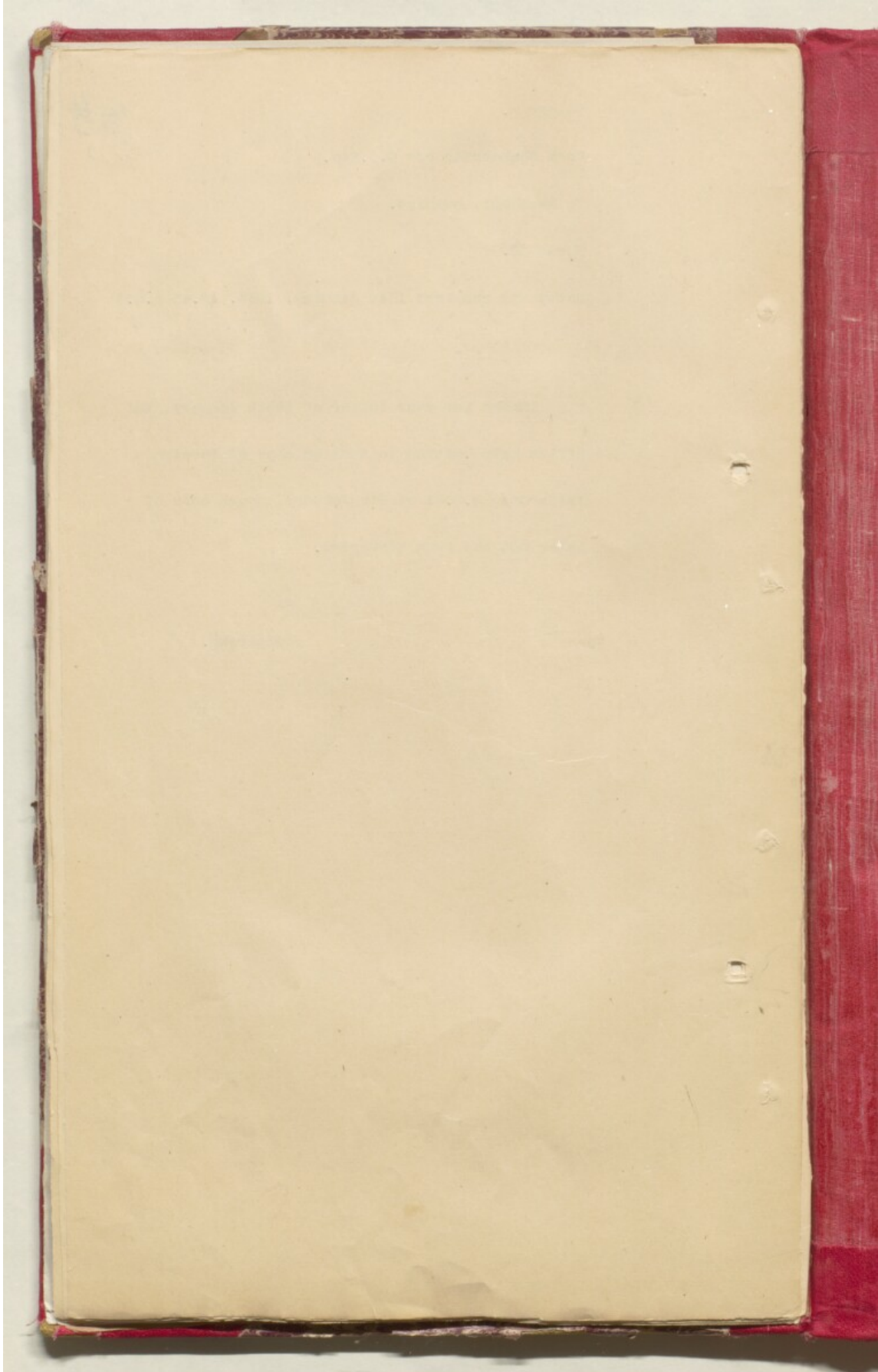


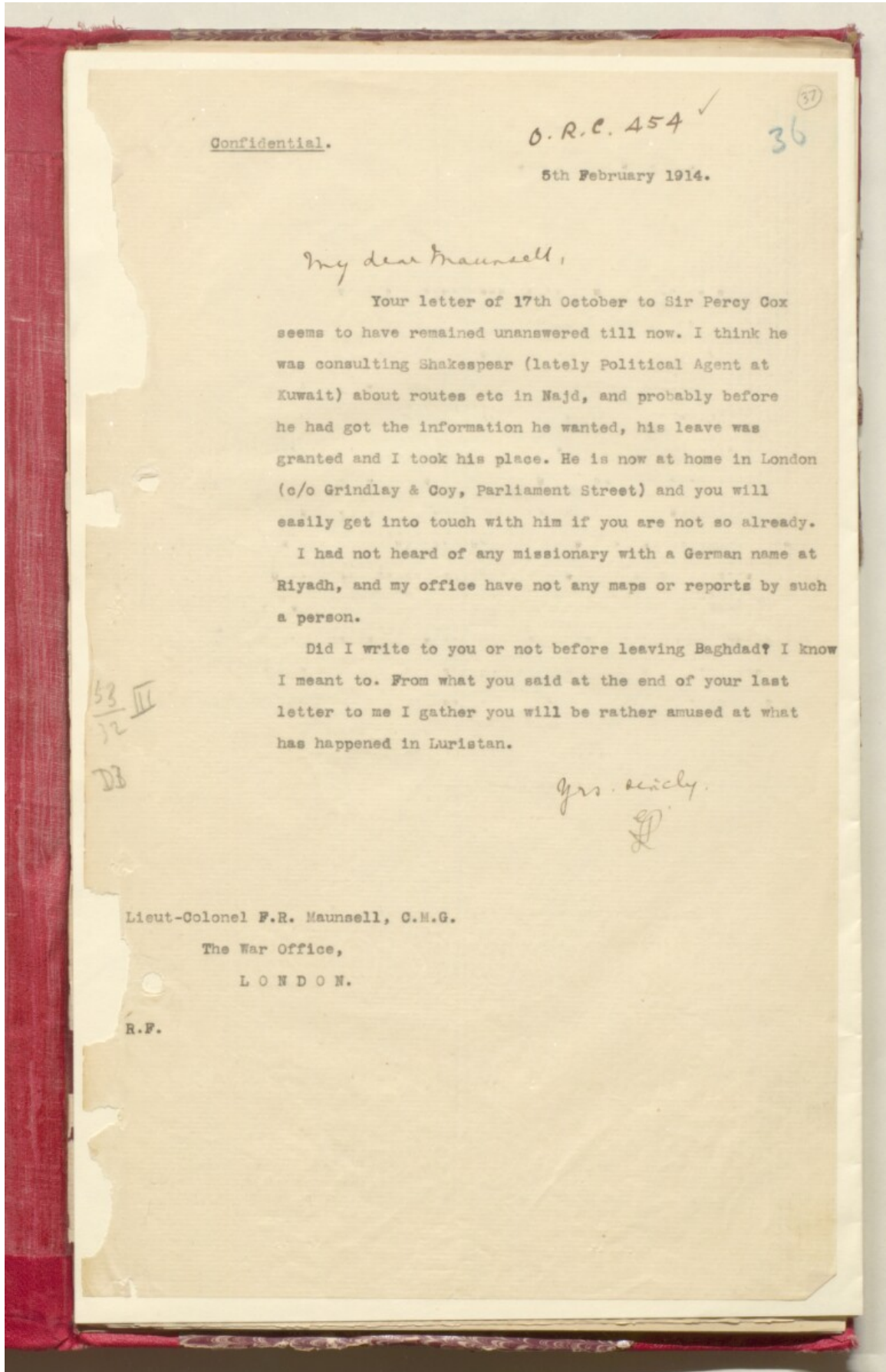












Confidential.

O.R.C. 454 ✓

36 37

5th February 1914.

My dear Maunsell,

Your letter of 17th October to Sir Percy Cox seems to have remained unanswered till now. I think he was consulting Shakespear (lately Political Agent at Kuwait) about routes etc in Najd, and probably before he had got the information he wanted, his leave was granted and I took his place. He is now at home in London (c/o Grindlay & Coy, Parliament Street) and you will easily get into touch with him if you are not so already.

I had not heard of any missionary with a German name at Riyadh, and my office have not any maps or reports by such a person.

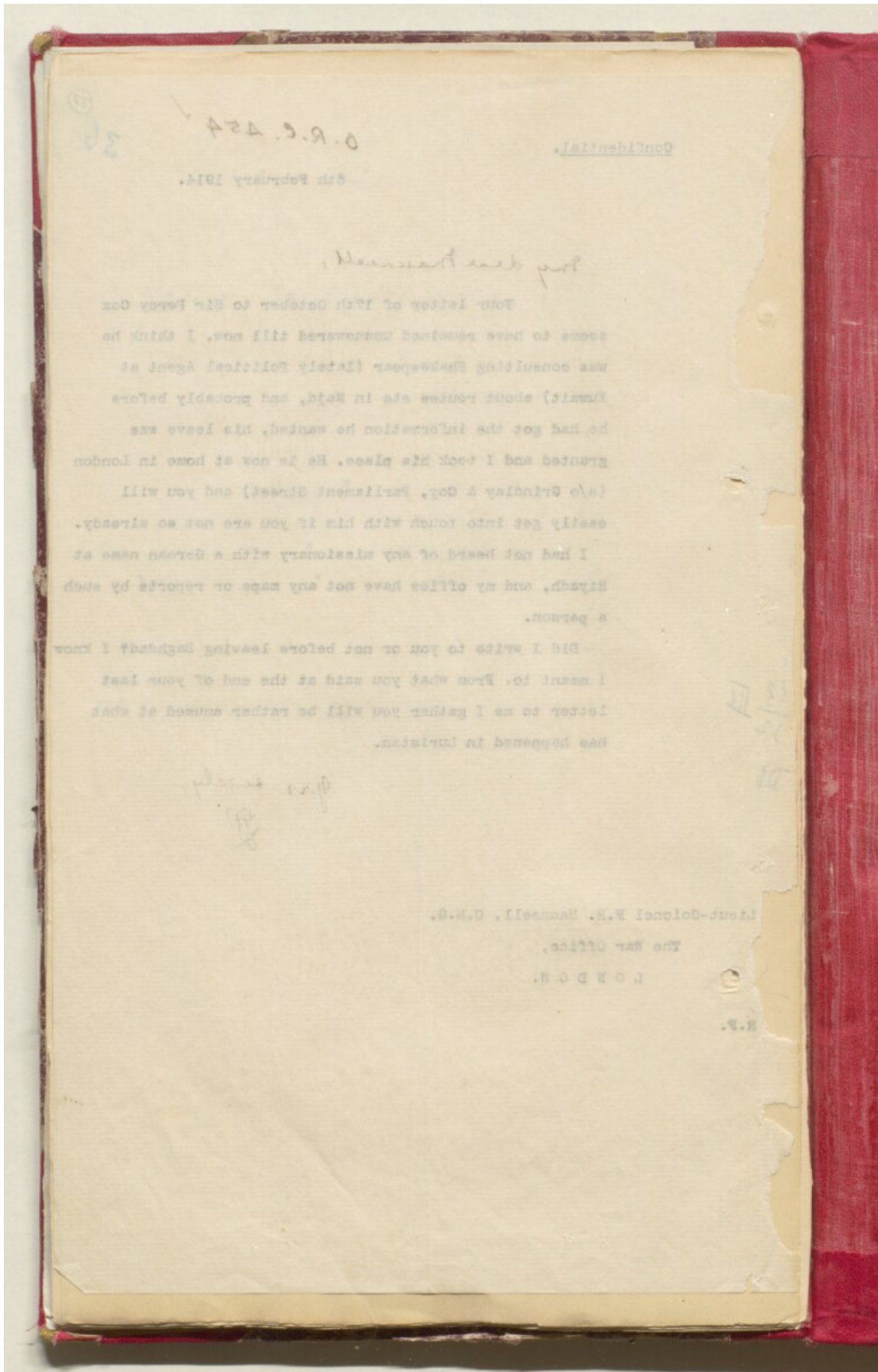
Did I write to you or not before leaving Baghdad? I know I meant to. From what you said at the end of your last letter to me I gather you will be rather amused at what has happened in Luristan.

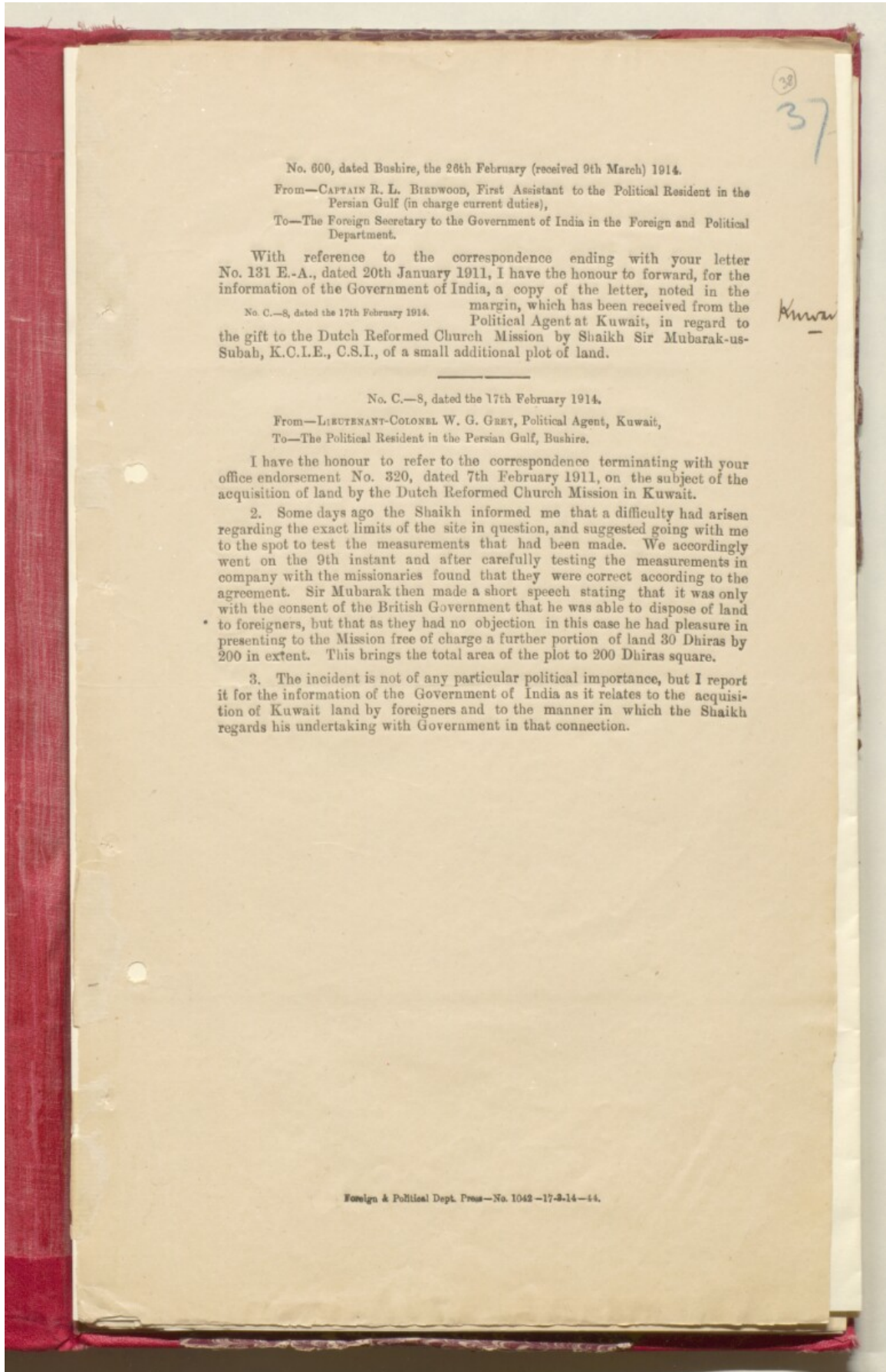
Yrs. sincerely,
L.P.

Lieut-Colonel F.R. Maunsell, C.M.G.

The War Office,
L O N D O N.

R.F.





No. 800, dated Bushire, the 28th February (received 9th March) 1914.

From—CAPTAIN R. L. BIRDWOOD, First Assistant to the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf (in charge current duties),

To—The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department.

With reference to the correspondence ending with your letter No. 131 E.-A., dated 20th January 1911, I have the honour to forward, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of the letter, noted in the margin, which has been received from the Political Agent at Kuwait, in regard to the gift to the Dutch Reformed Church Mission by Shaikh Sir Mubarak-us-Subab, K.C.I.E., C.S.I., of a small additional plot of land.

No. C.—8, dated the 17th February 1914.

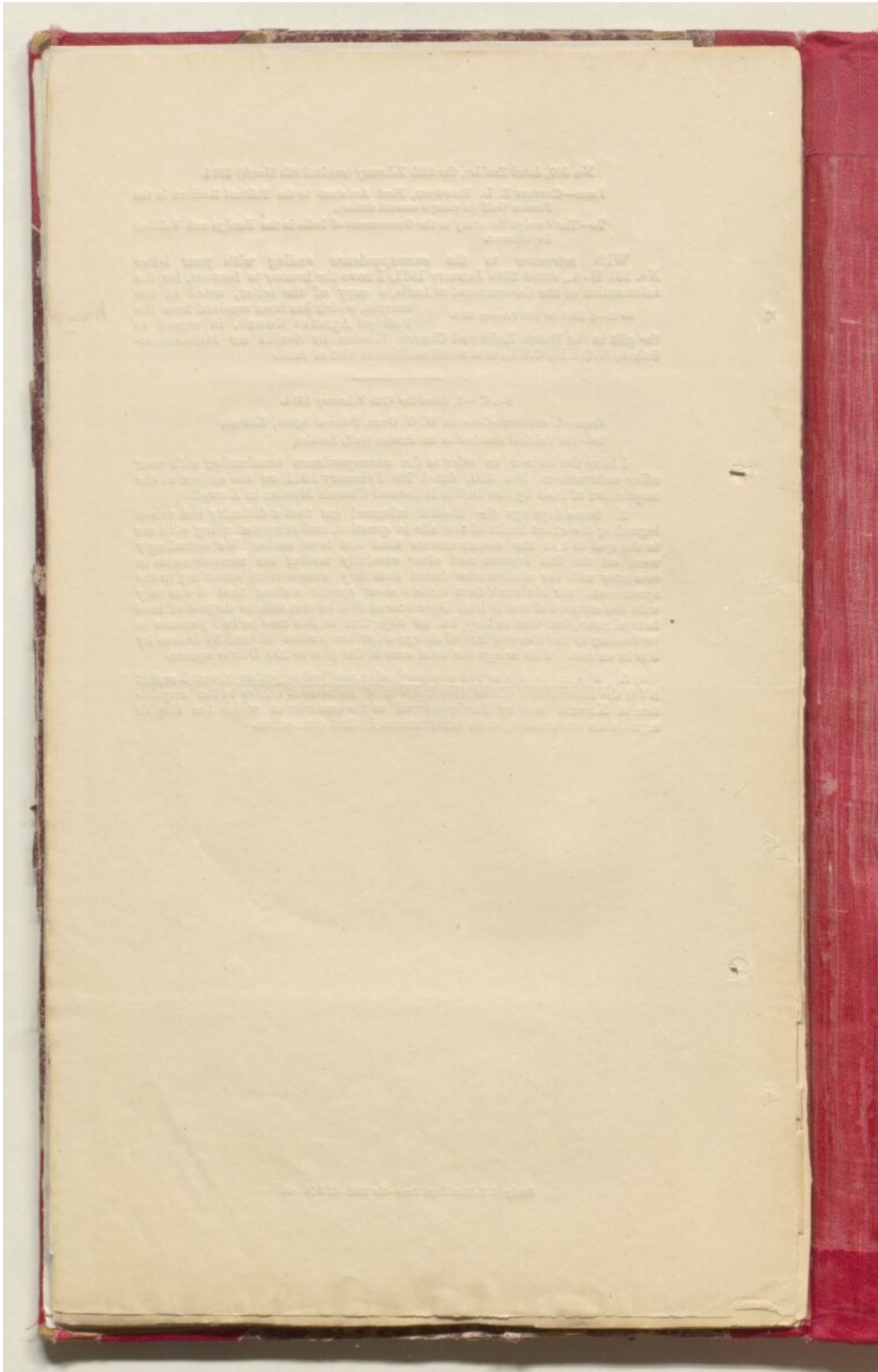
No. C.—8, dated the 17th February 1914.

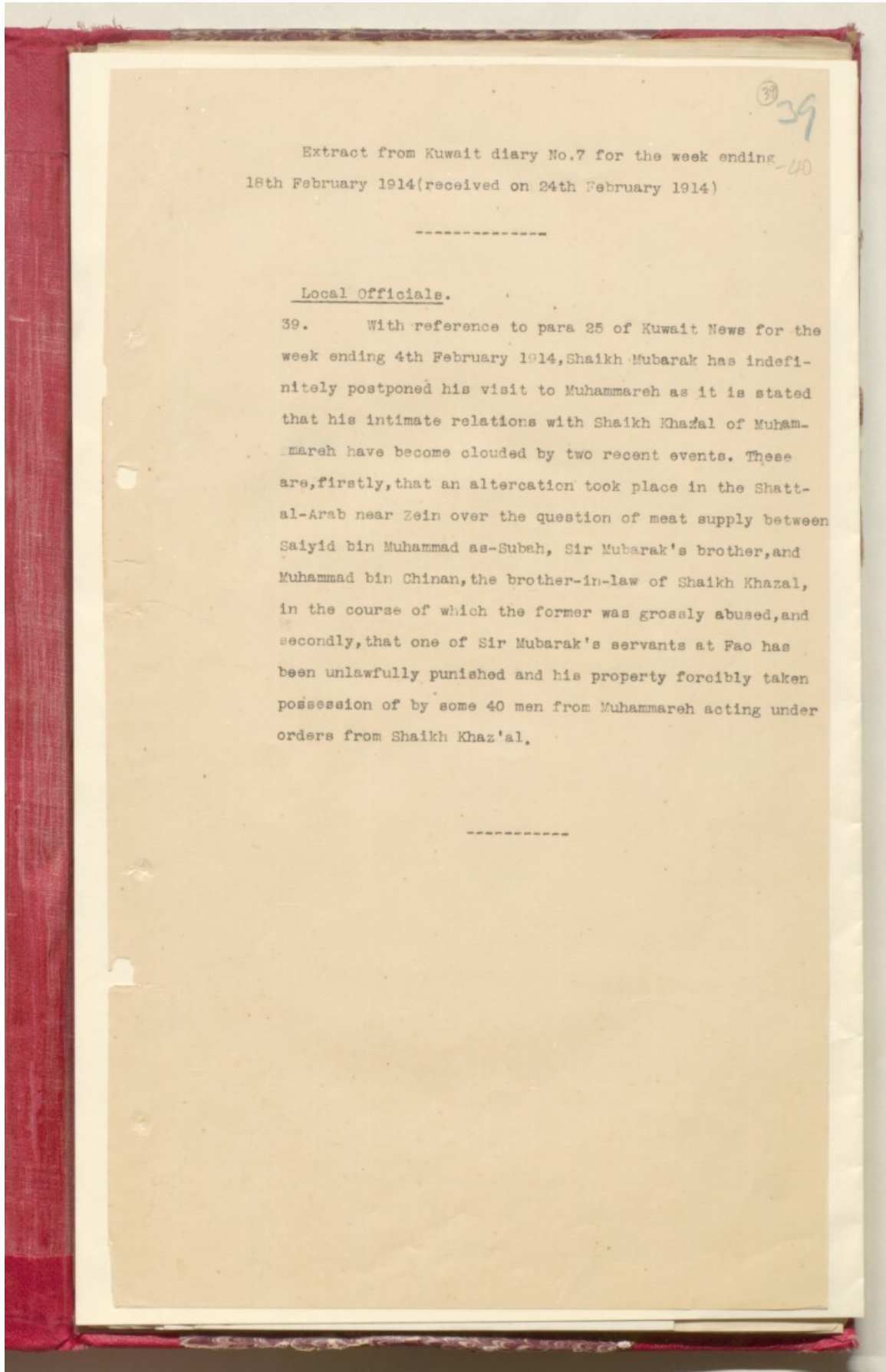
From—LIEUTENANT-COLONEL W. G. GREY, Political Agent, Kuwait,
To—The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

I have the honour to refer to the correspondence terminating with your office endorsement No. 320, dated 7th February 1911, on the subject of the acquisition of land by the Dutch Reformed Church Mission in Kuwait.

2. Some days ago the Shaikh informed me that a difficulty had arisen regarding the exact limits of the site in question, and suggested going with me to the spot to test the measurements that had been made. We accordingly went on the 9th instant and after carefully testing the measurements in company with the missionaries found that they were correct according to the agreement. Sir Mubarak then made a short speech stating that it was only with the consent of the British Government that he was able to dispose of land to foreigners, but that as they had no objection in this case he had pleasure in presenting to the Mission free of charge a further portion of land 30 Dhiras by 200 in extent. This brings the total area of the plot to 200 Dhiras square.

3. The incident is not of any particular political importance, but I report it for the information of the Government of India as it relates to the acquisition of Kuwait land by foreigners and to the manner in which the Shaikh regards his undertaking with Government in that connection.

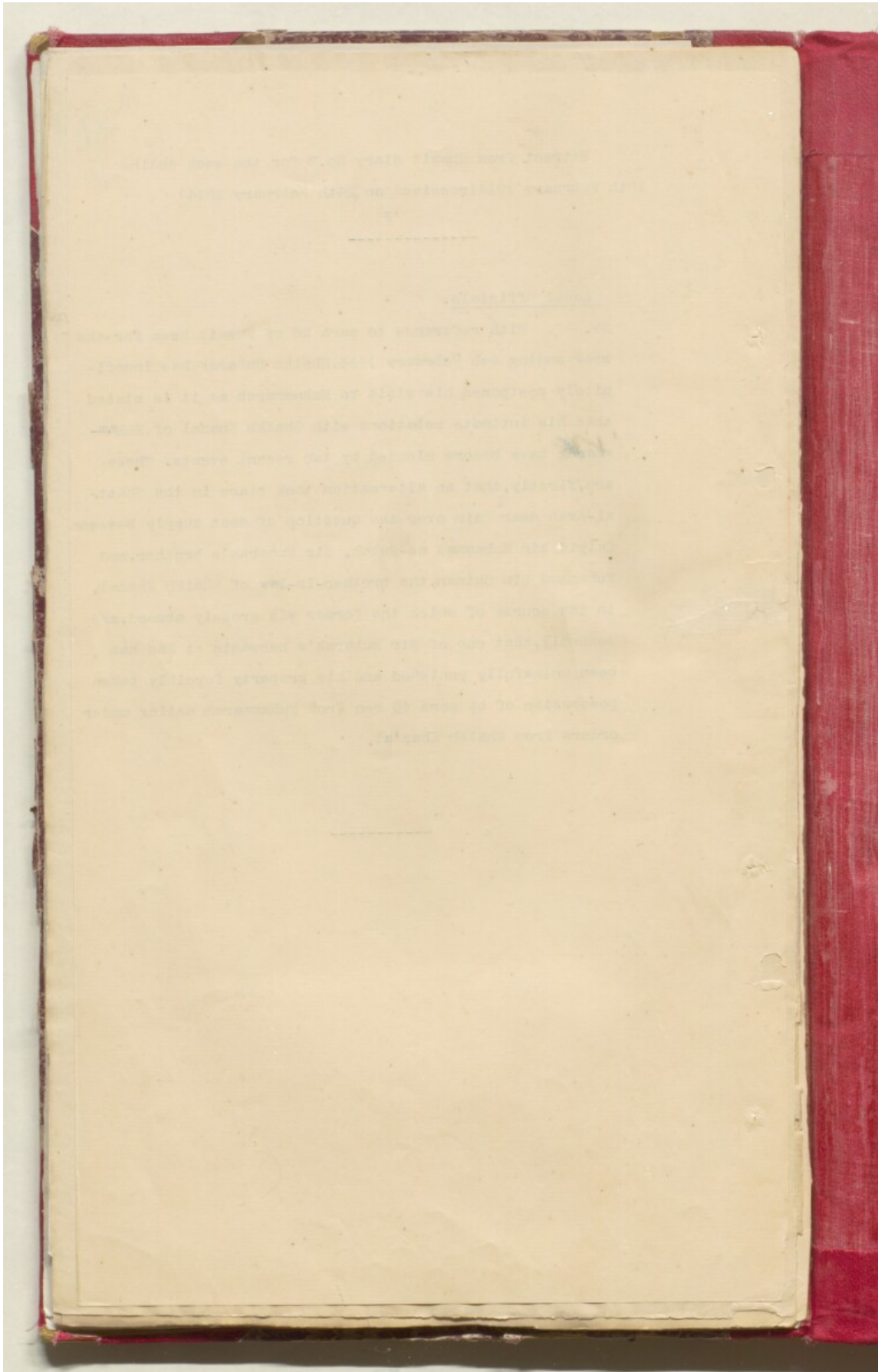


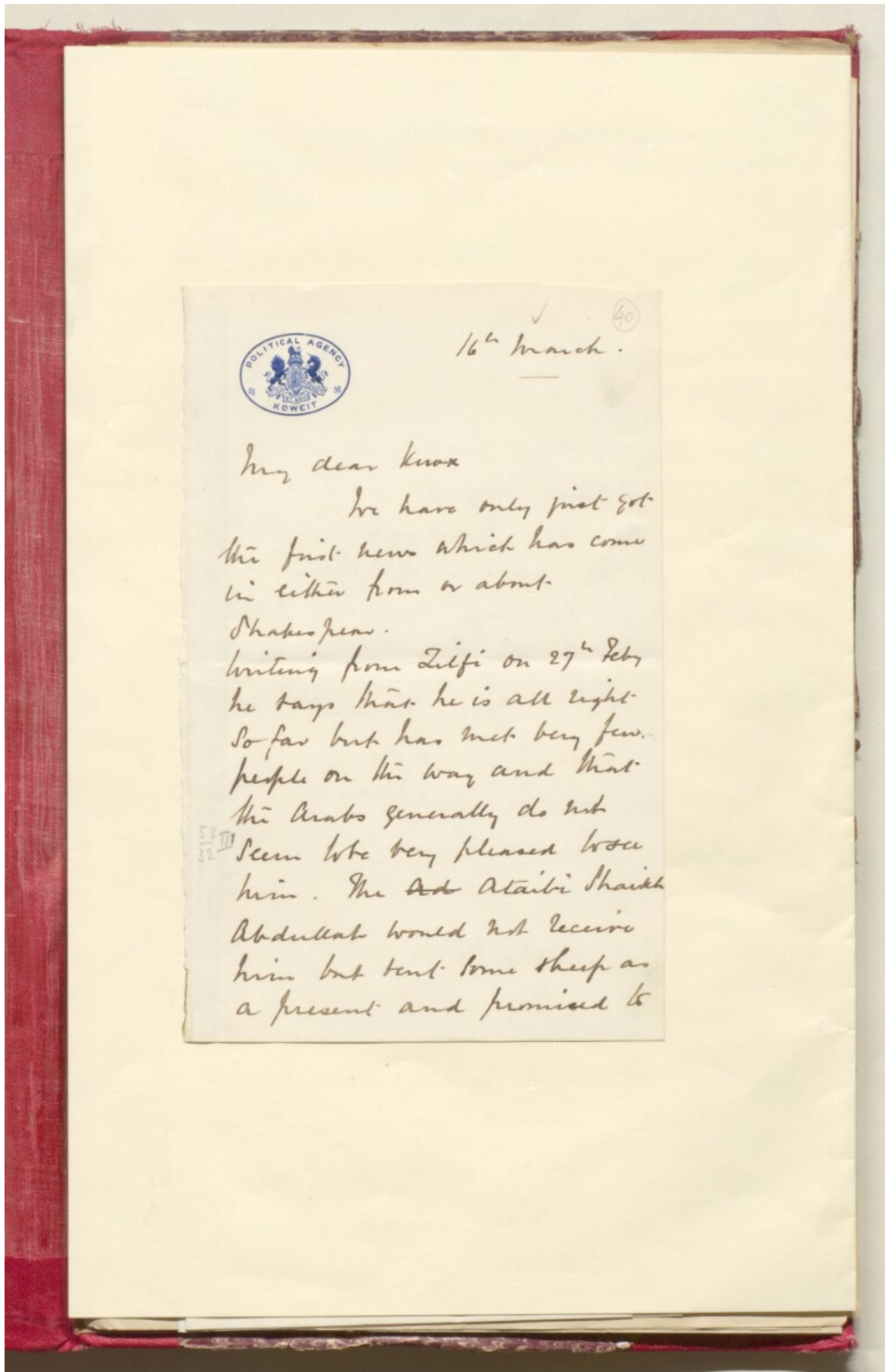


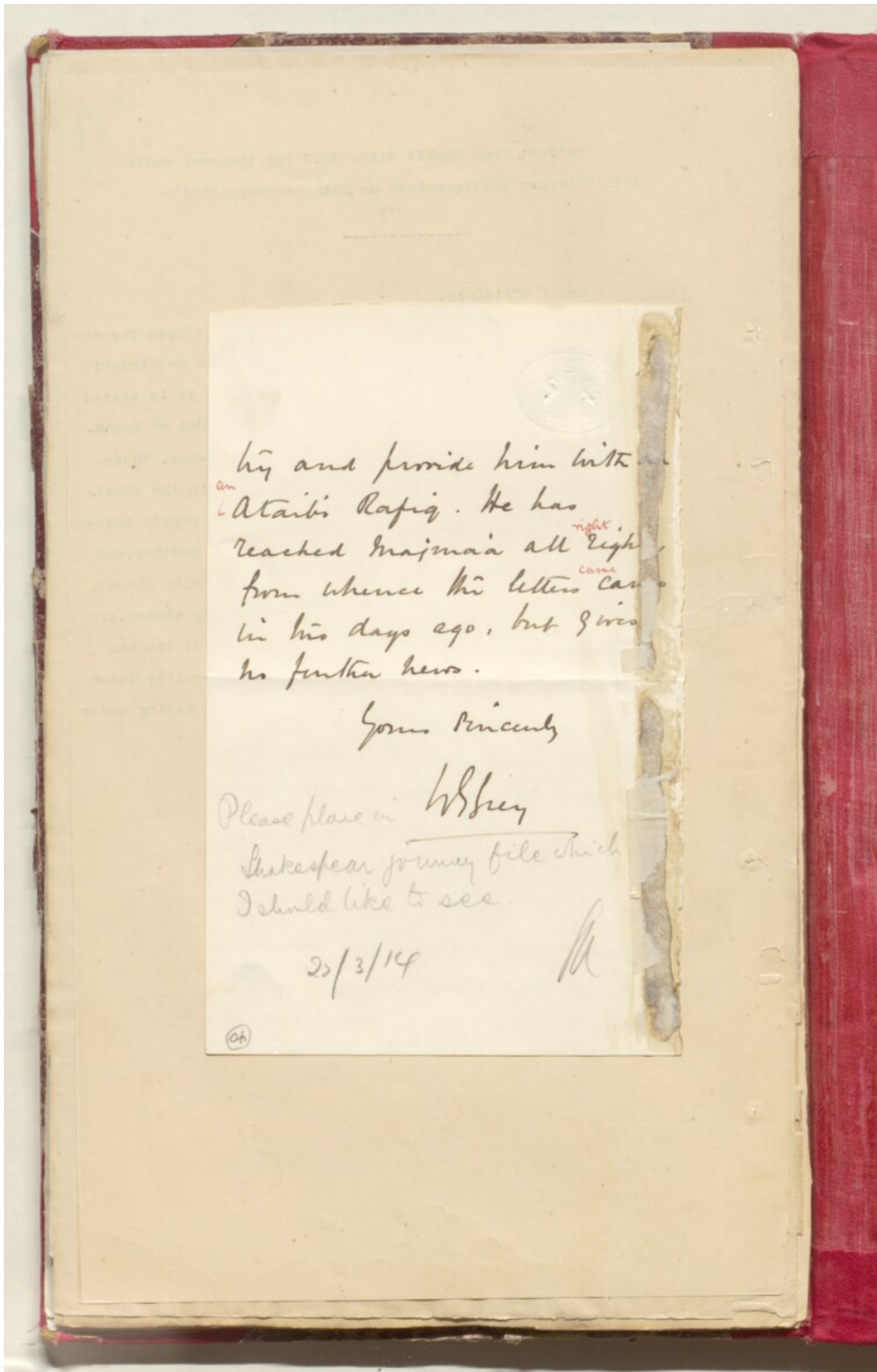
Extract from Kuwait diary No.7 for the week ending
18th February 1914(received on 24th February 1914)

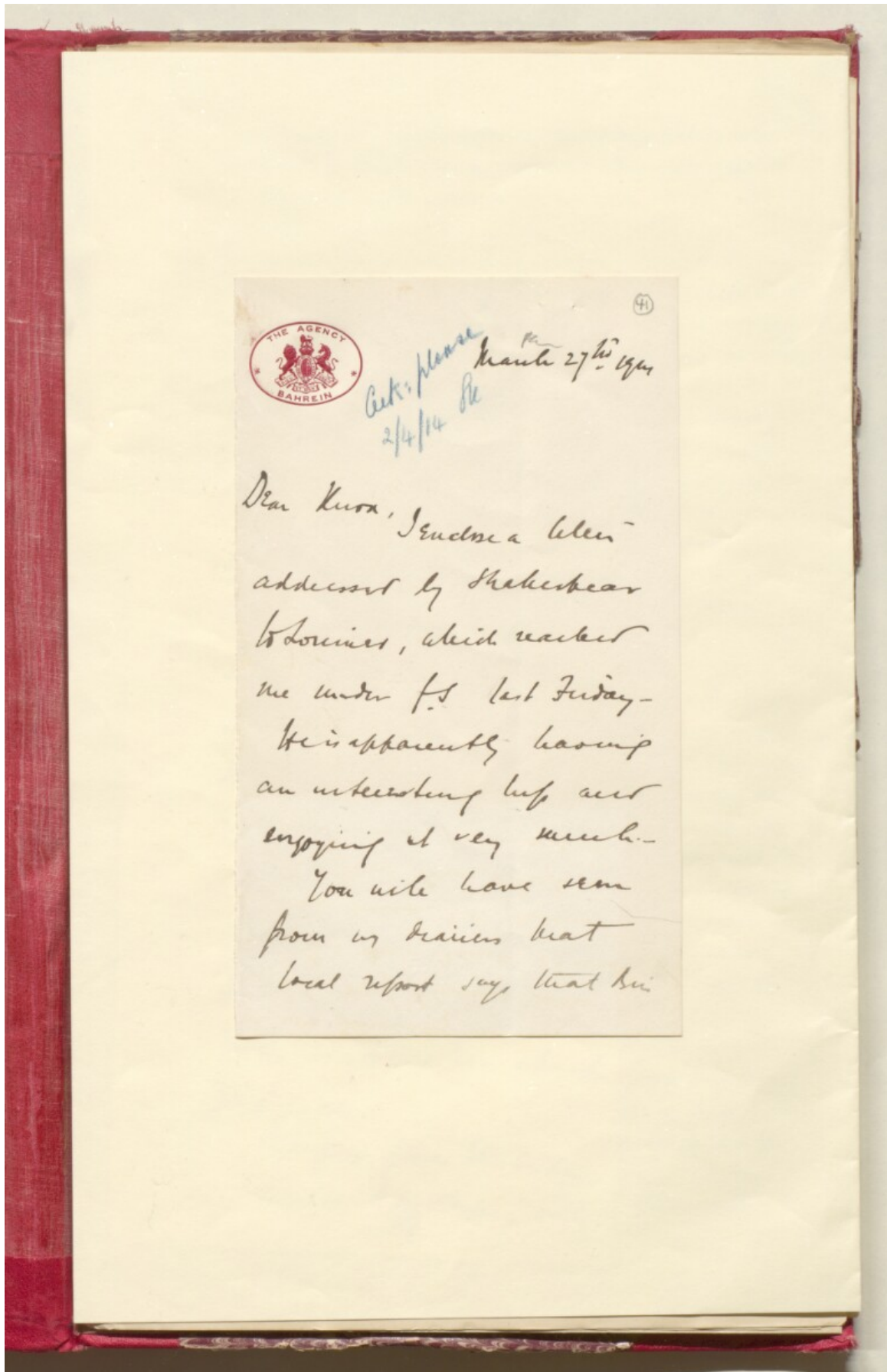
Local Officials.

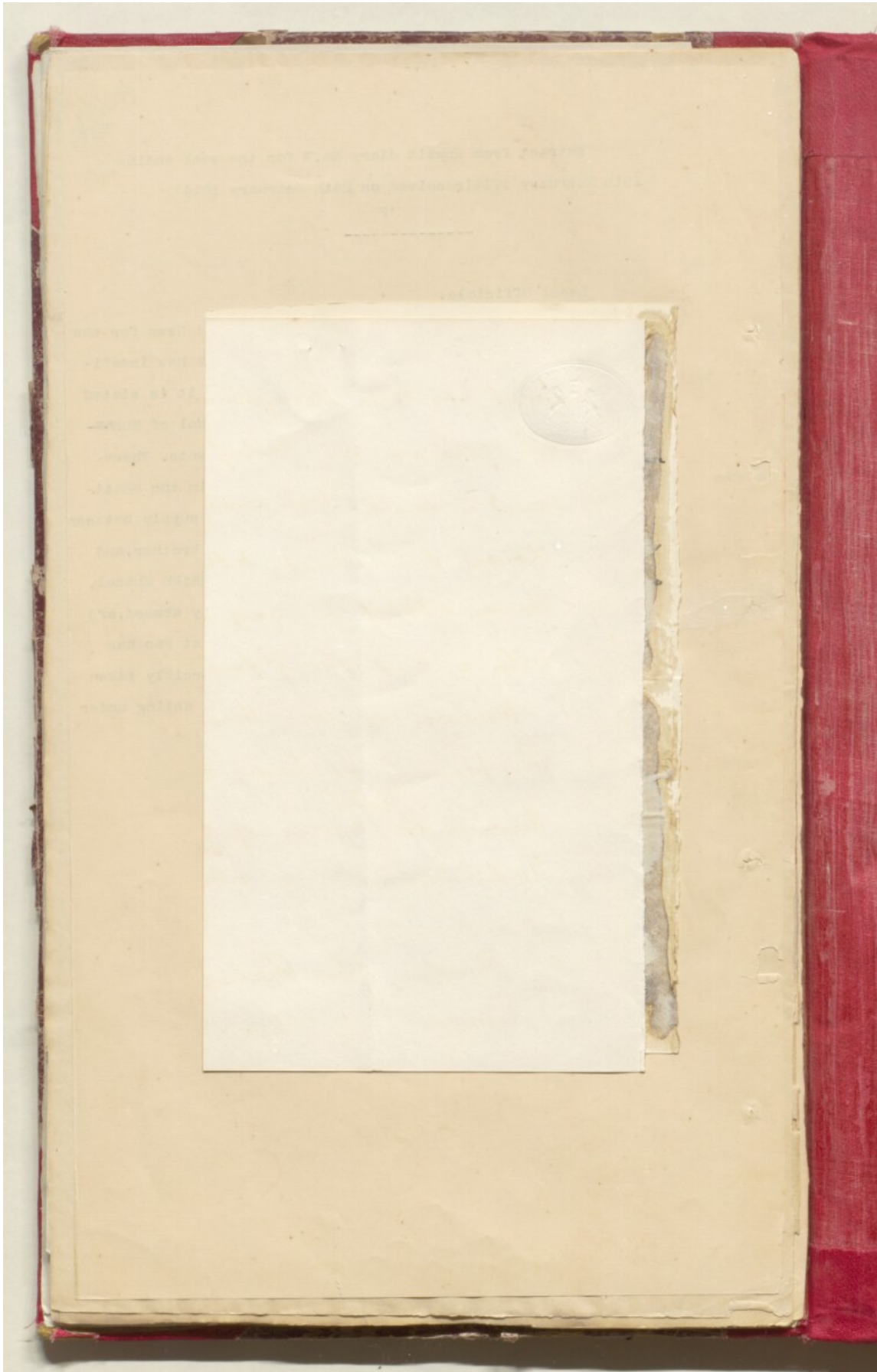
39. With reference to para 25 of Kuwait News for the week ending 4th February 1914, Shaikh Mubarak has indefinitely postponed his visit to Muhammareh as it is stated that his intimate relations with Shaikh Khazal of Muhammareh have become clouded by two recent events. These are, firstly, that an altercation took place in the Shatt-al-Arab near Zein over the question of meat supply between Saiyid bin Muhammad as-Subah, Sir Mubarak's brother, and Muhammad bin Chinan, the brother-in-law of Shaikh Khazal, in the course of which the former was grossly abused, and secondly, that one of Sir Mubarak's servants at Fao has been unlawfully punished and his property forcibly taken possession of by some 40 men from Muhammareh acting under orders from Shaikh Khaz'al.













٤٢
Saut has been strengthening
his garrison at Kalif
and is said to be covering
down some where between
Hamm & Kalif himself soon
with a good strong force.

However he may change
his plans if he hears that
there is ^{not much} ~~too~~ chance of the
Turks making an attack
just now.

Approach of the Shahrban
reference to ships, only

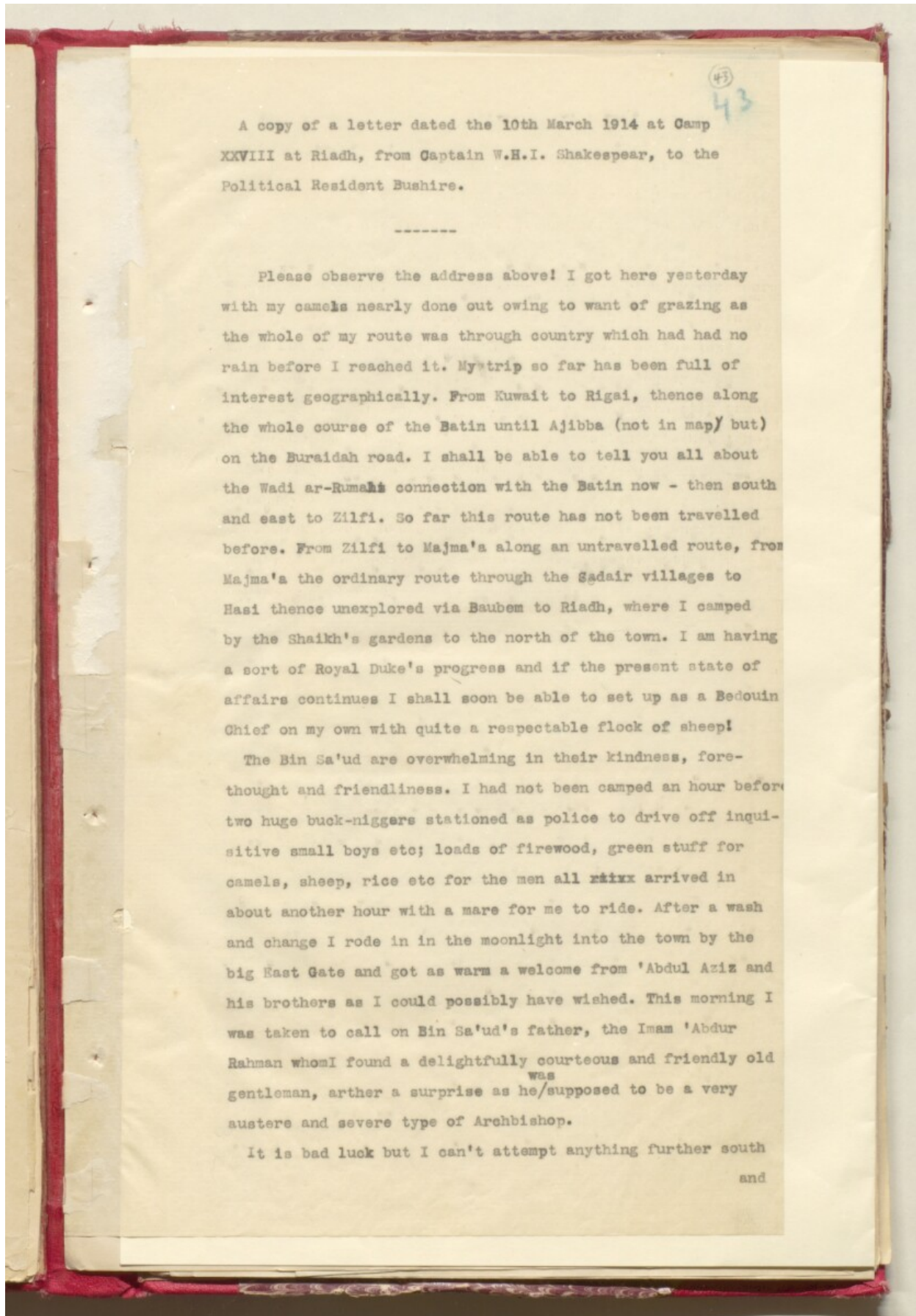


smaller than the West
a fishing vessel but near
Katif I believe -

Yours sincerely

Arcou

P.S. The weather is decent
and I can get rid of glass
etc. I hope to go over to Katif
in Friday next. I wanted to
do before but the lately I have
stayed here on account of the
introduction of the new landing
arrangements. I hope they will
be all right now. G.P. have started
& thus we have scotched local opposition.

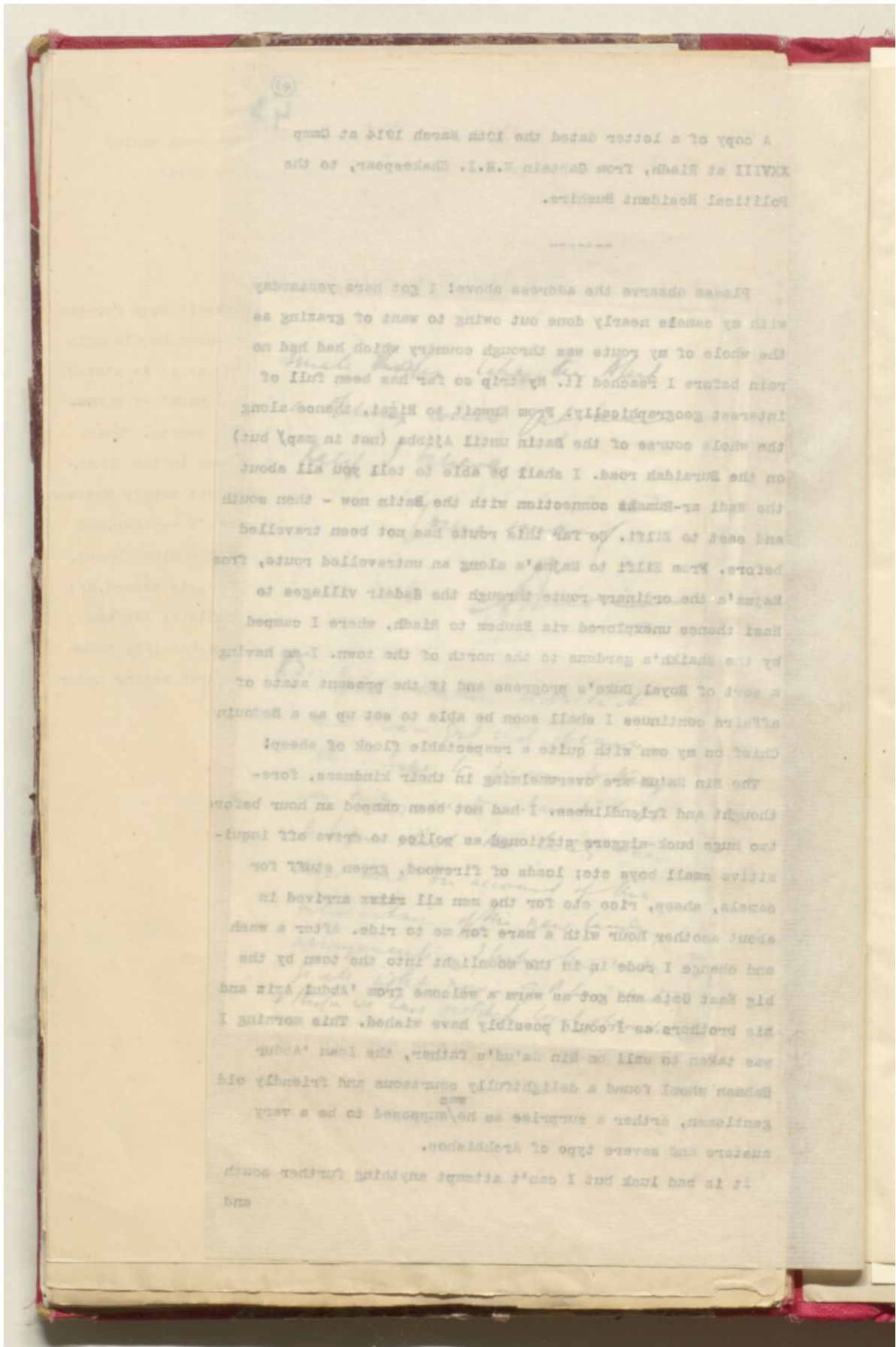


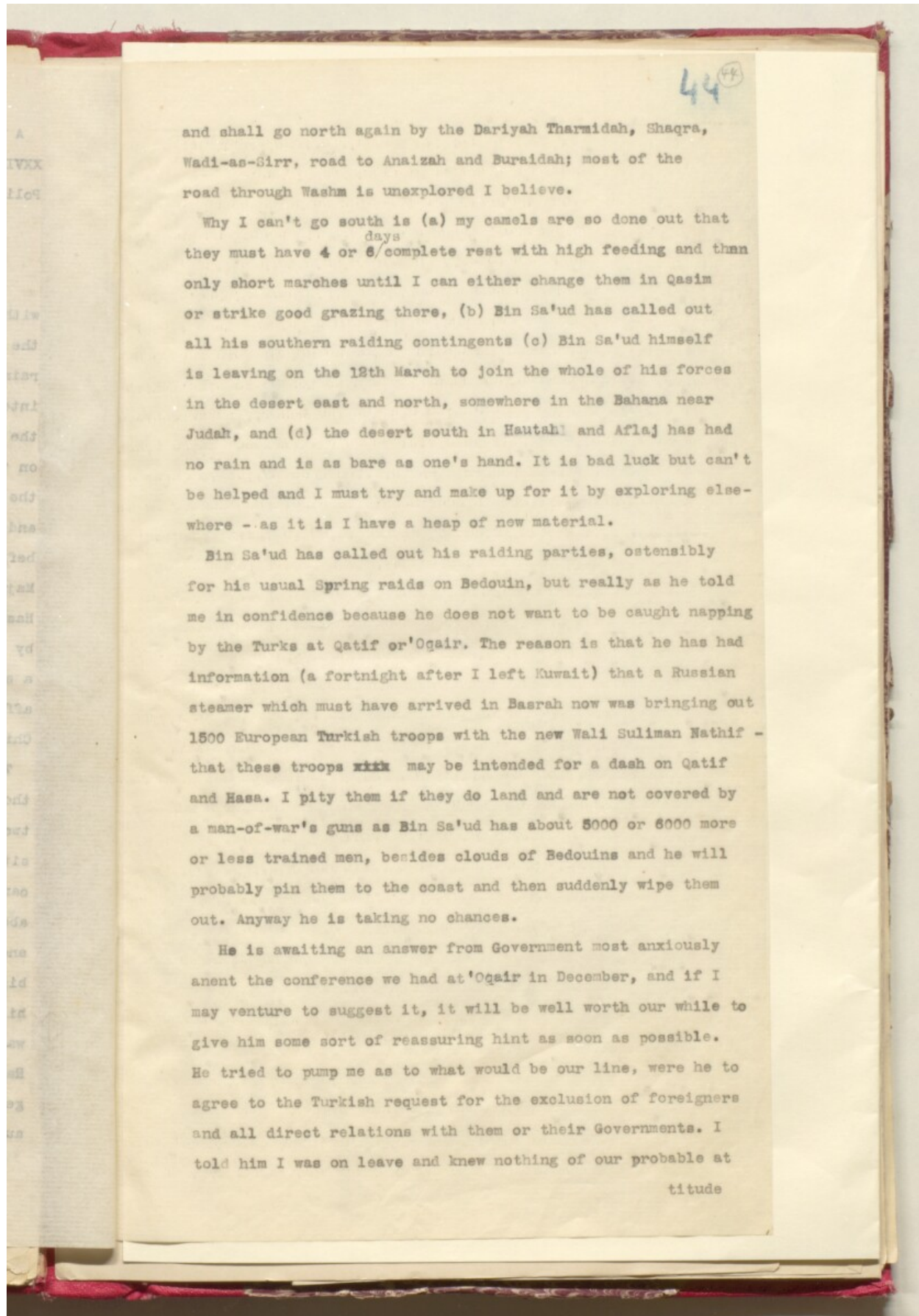
A copy of a letter dated the 10th March 1914 at Camp
XXVIII at Riyadh, from Captain W.H.I. Shakespear, to the
Political Resident Bushire.

Please observe the address above! I got here yesterday
with my camels nearly done out owing to want of grazing as
the whole of my route was through country which had had no
rain before I reached it. My trip so far has been full of
interest geographically. From Kuwait to Rigai, thence along
the whole course of the Batin until Ajibba (not in map) but
on the Buraidah road. I shall be able to tell you all about
the Wadi ar-Rumail connection with the Batin now - then south
and east to Zilfi. So far this route has not been travelled
before. From Zilfi to Majma'a along an untravelled route, from
Majma'a the ordinary route through the Gdair villages to
Hasi thence unexplored via Baubem to Riyadh, where I camped
by the Shaikh's gardens to the north of the town. I am having
a sort of Royal Duke's progress and if the present state of
affairs continues I shall soon be able to set up as a Bedouin
Chief on my own with quite a respectable flock of sheep!

The Bin Sa'ud are overwhelming in their kindness, fore-
thought and friendliness. I had not been camped an hour before
two huge buck-niggers stationed as police to drive off inqui-
sitive small boys etc; loads of firewood, green stuff for
camels, sheep, rice etc for the men all arrived in
about another hour with a mare for me to ride. After a wash
and change I rode in in the moonlight into the town by the
big East Gate and got as warm a welcome from 'Abdul Aziz and
his brothers as I could possibly have wished. This morning I
was taken to call on Bin Sa'ud's father, the Imam 'Abdur
Rahman whom I found a delightfully courteous and friendly old
gentleman, rather a surprise as he ^{was} supposed to be a very
austere and severe type of Archbishop.

It is bad luck but I can't attempt anything further south
and



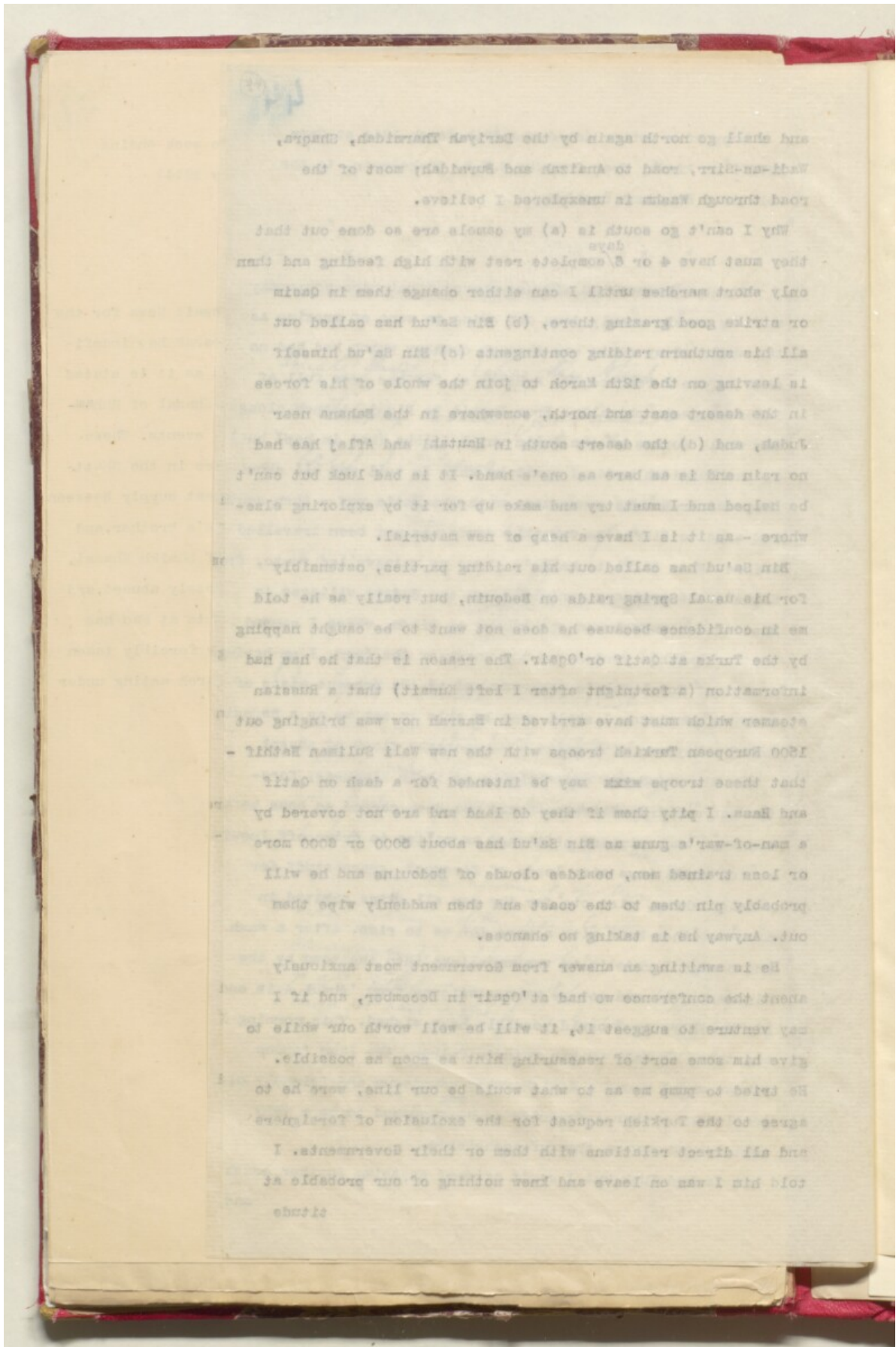


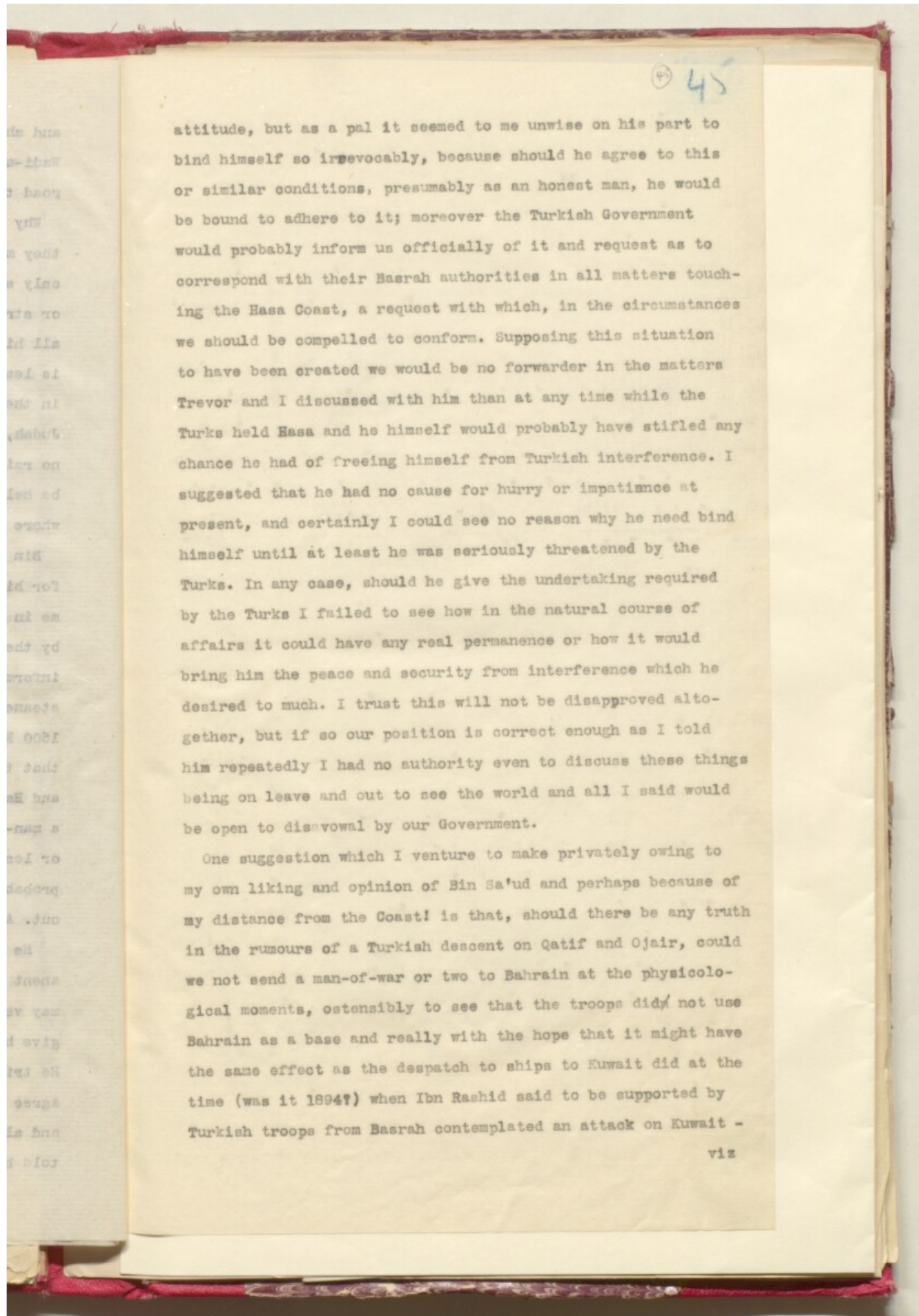
and shall go north again by the Dariyah Tharmidah, Shaqra, Wadi-as-Sirr, road to Anaizah and Buraidah; most of the road through Washm is unexplored I believe.

Why I can't go south is (a) my camels are so done out that they must have 4 or 6^{days}/complete rest with high feeding and then only short marches until I can either change them in Qasim or strike good grazing there, (b) Bin Sa'ud has called out all his southern raiding contingents (c) Bin Sa'ud himself is leaving on the 12th March to join the whole of his forces in the desert east and north, somewhere in the Bahana near Judah, and (d) the desert south in Hautahl and Aflaj has had no rain and is as bare as one's hand. It is bad luck but can't be helped and I must try and make up for it by exploring elsewhere - as it is I have a heap of new material.

Bin Sa'ud has called out his raiding parties, ostensibly for his usual Spring raids on Bedouin, but really as he told me in confidence because he does not want to be caught napping by the Turks at Qatif or 'Oqair. The reason is that he has had information (a fortnight after I left Kuwait) that a Russian steamer which must have arrived in Basrah now was bringing out 1500 European Turkish troops with the new Wali Suliman Nathif - that these troops ~~will~~ may be intended for a dash on Qatif and Hasa. I pity them if they do land and are not covered by a man-of-war's guns as Bin Sa'ud has about 5000 or 6000 more or less trained men, besides clouds of Bedouins and he will probably pin them to the coast and then suddenly wipe them out. Anyway he is taking no chances.

He is awaiting an answer from Government most anxiously anent the conference we had at 'Oqair in December, and if I may venture to suggest it, it will be well worth our while to give him some sort of reassuring hint as soon as possible. He tried to pump me as to what would be our line, were he to agree to the Turkish request for the exclusion of foreigners and all direct relations with them or their Governments. I told him I was on leave and knew nothing of our probable attitude

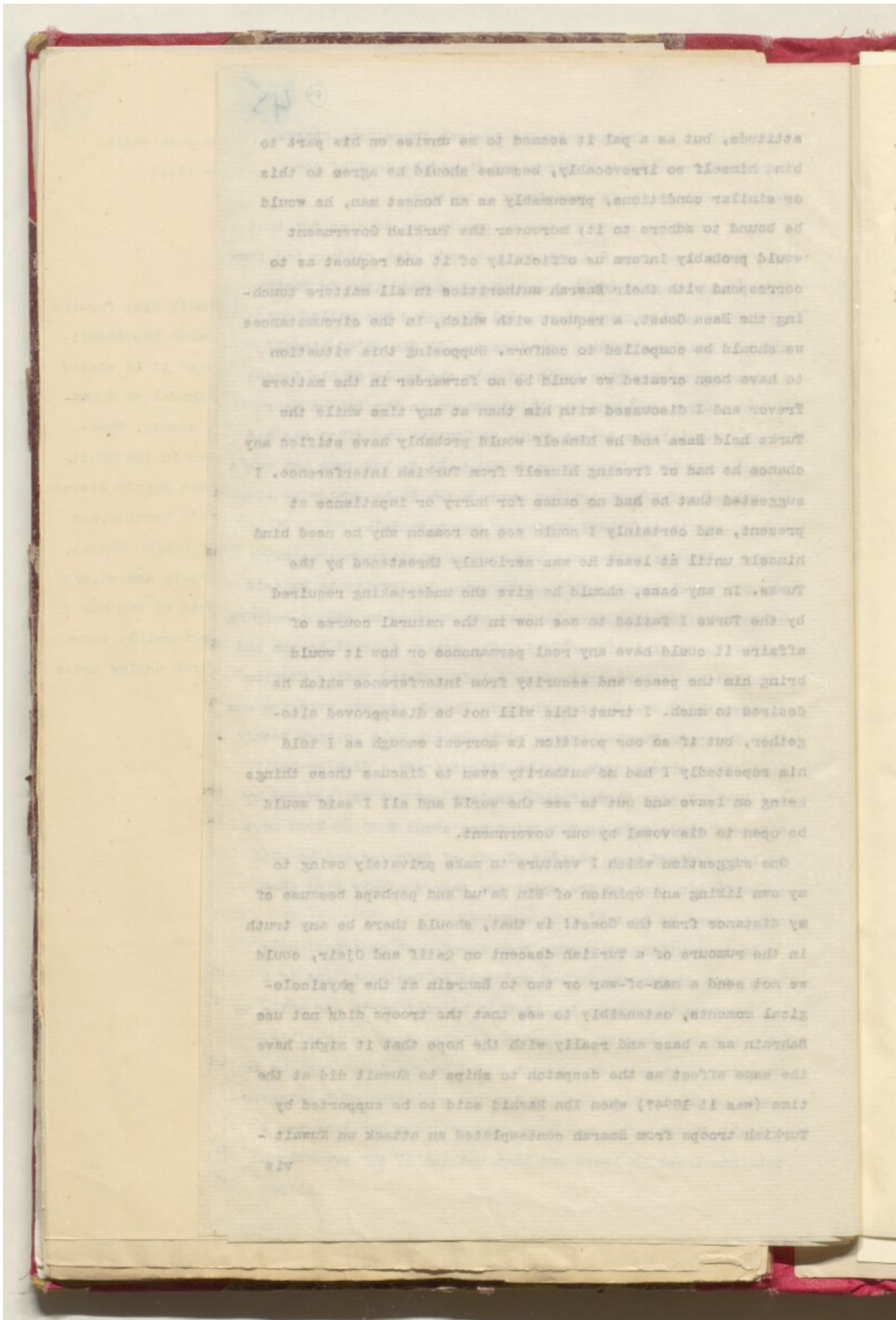


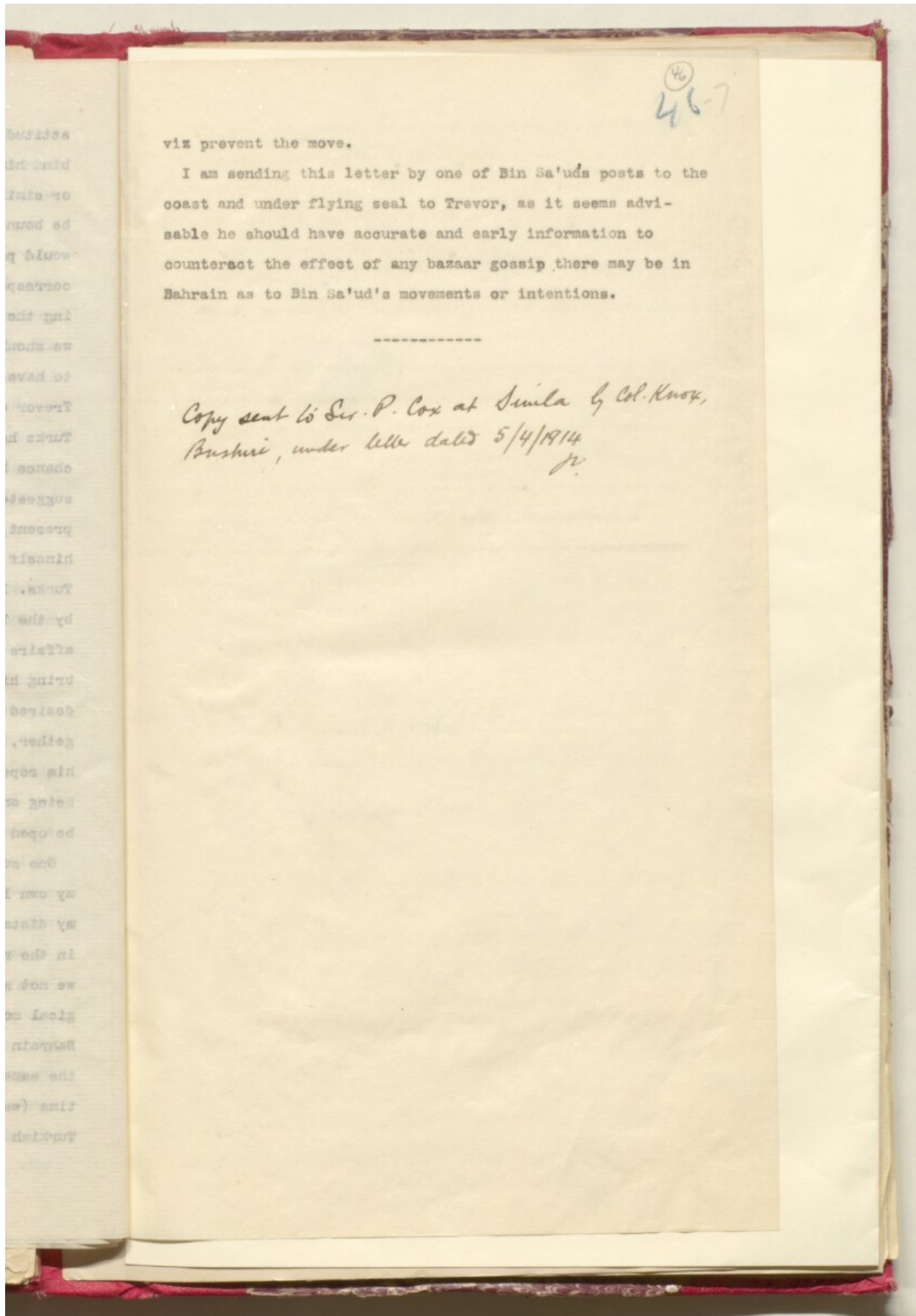


attitude, but as a pal it seemed to me unwise on his part to bind himself so irrevocably, because should he agree to this or similar conditions, presumably as an honest man, he would be bound to adhere to it; moreover the Turkish Government would probably inform us officially of it and request as to correspond with their Basrah authorities in all matters touching the Hasa Coast, a request with which, in the circumstances we should be compelled to conform. Supposing this situation to have been created we would be no forwarder in the matters Trevor and I discussed with him than at any time while the Turks held Hasa and he himself would probably have stifled any chance he had of freeing himself from Turkish interference. I suggested that he had no cause for hurry or impatience at present, and certainly I could see no reason why he need bind himself until at least he was seriously threatened by the Turks. In any case, should he give the undertaking required by the Turks I failed to see how in the natural course of affairs it could have any real permanence or how it would bring him the peace and security from interference which he desired to much. I trust this will not be disapproved altogether, but if so our position is correct enough as I told him repeatedly I had no authority even to discuss these things being on leave and out to see the world and all I said would be open to disavowal by our Government.

One suggestion which I venture to make privately owing to my own liking and opinion of Bin Sa'ud and perhaps because of my distance from the Coast! is that, should there be any truth in the rumours of a Turkish descent on Qatif and Ofair, could we not send a man-of-war or two to Bahrain at the physico-logical moments, ostensibly to see that the troops did not use Bahrain as a base and really with the hope that it might have the same effect as the despatch to ships to Kuwait did at the time (was it 1894?) when Ibn Rashid said to be supported by Turkish troops from Basrah contemplated an attack on Kuwait -

viz

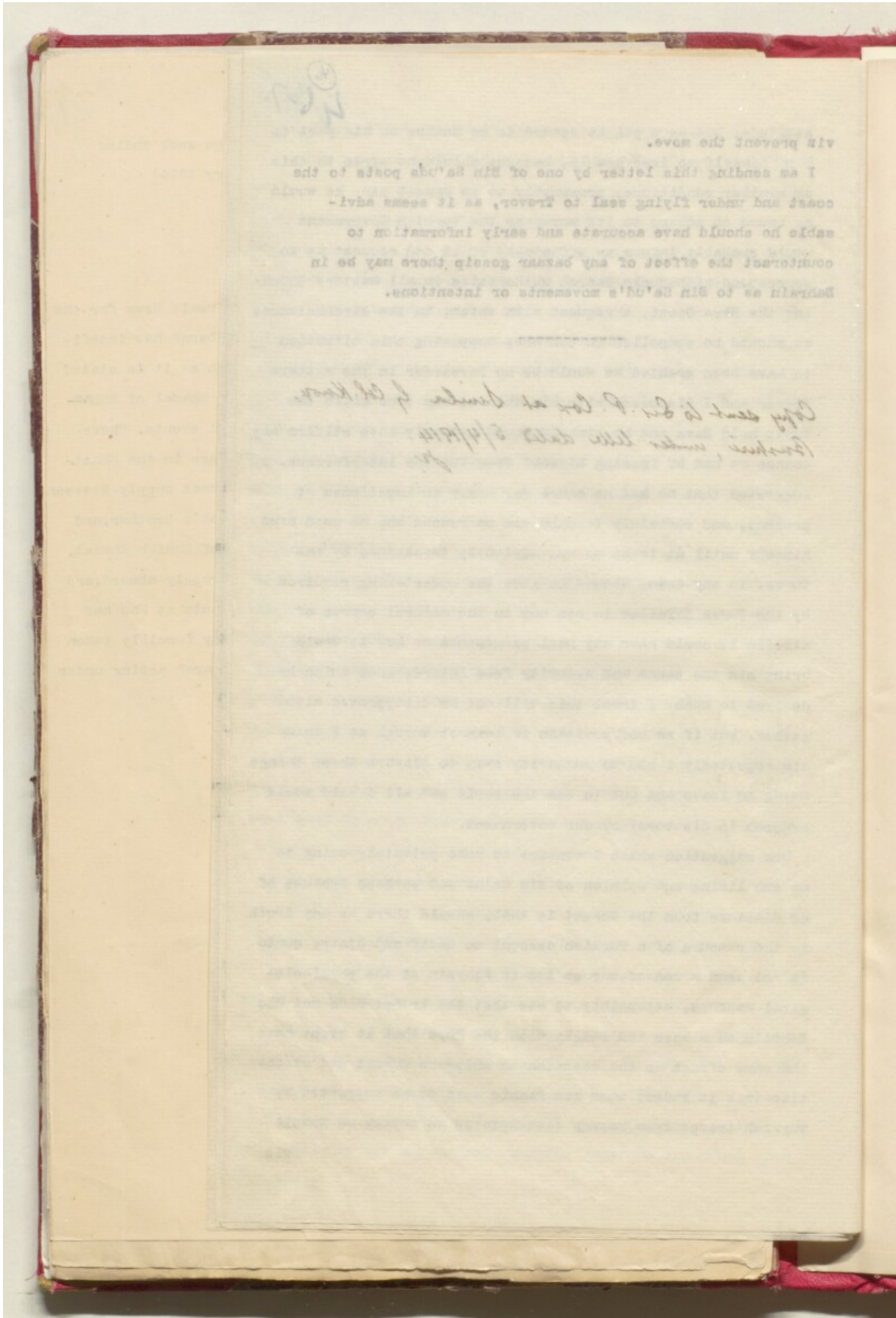


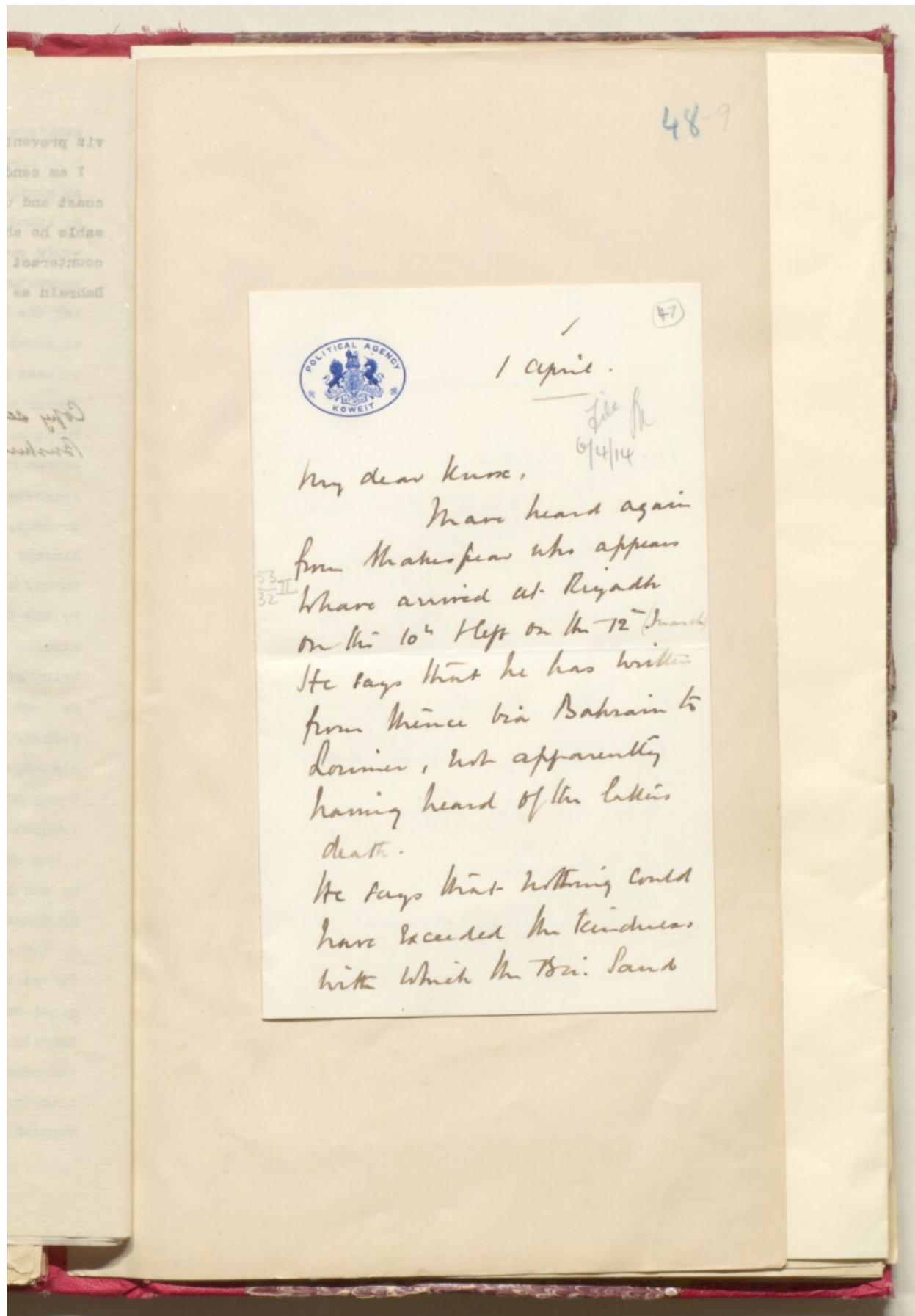


viz prevent the move.

I am sending this letter by one of Bin Sa'ud's posts to the coast and under flying seal to Trevor, as it seems advisable he should have accurate and early information to counteract the effect of any bazaar gossip there may be in Bahrain as to Bin Sa'ud's movements or intentions.

Copy sent to Sir P. Cox at Simla by Col. Knox,
Bushiri, under letter dated 5/4/1914
jr.







48-9

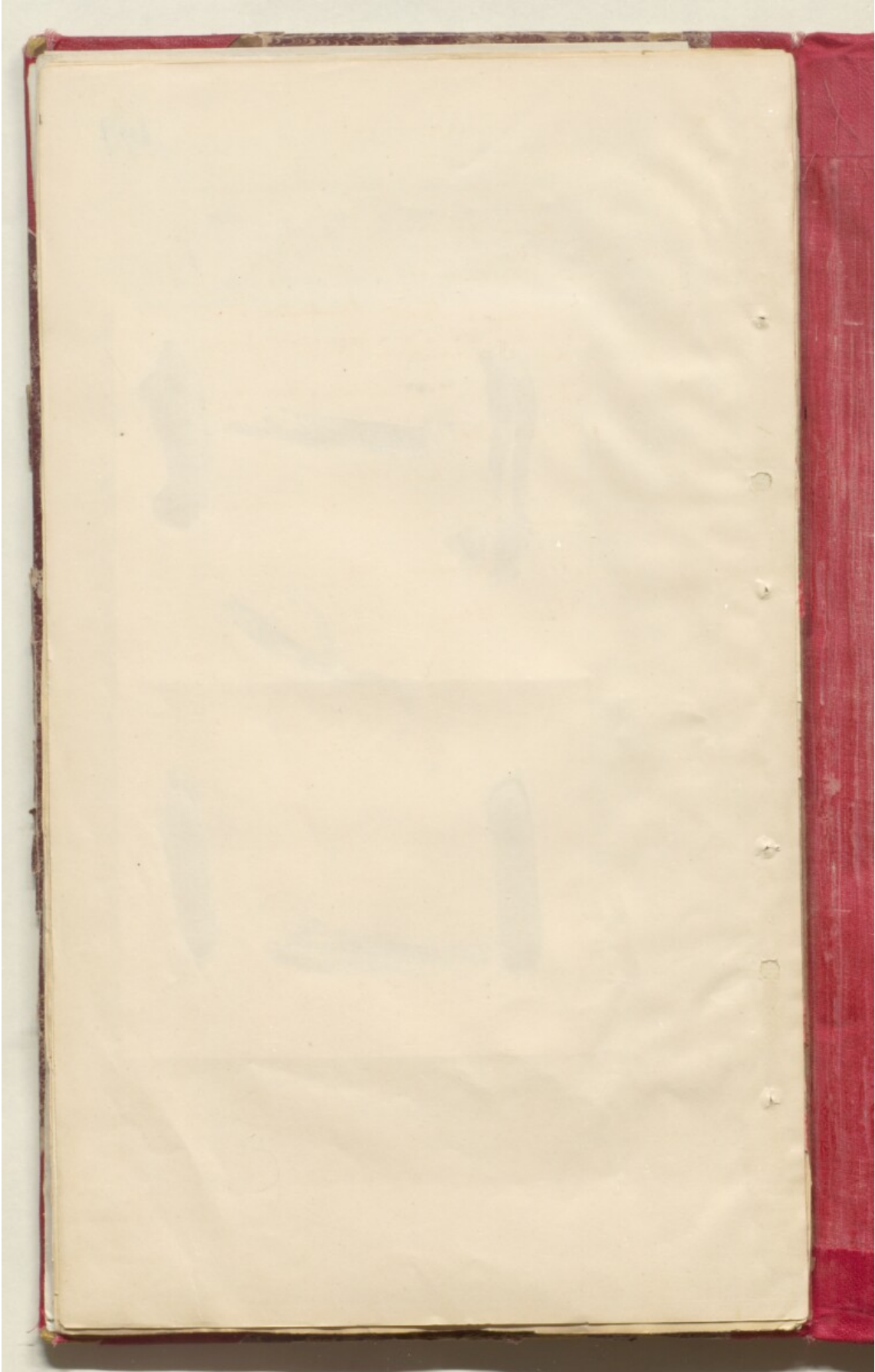
family treated him, and
that his route was his
via Shagra to Anazeh
and Buraidah, as far
as which latter place
they are sending him.
Probably you will have
received his letters for
his Residency.
Thanks very much for
your kind invitation

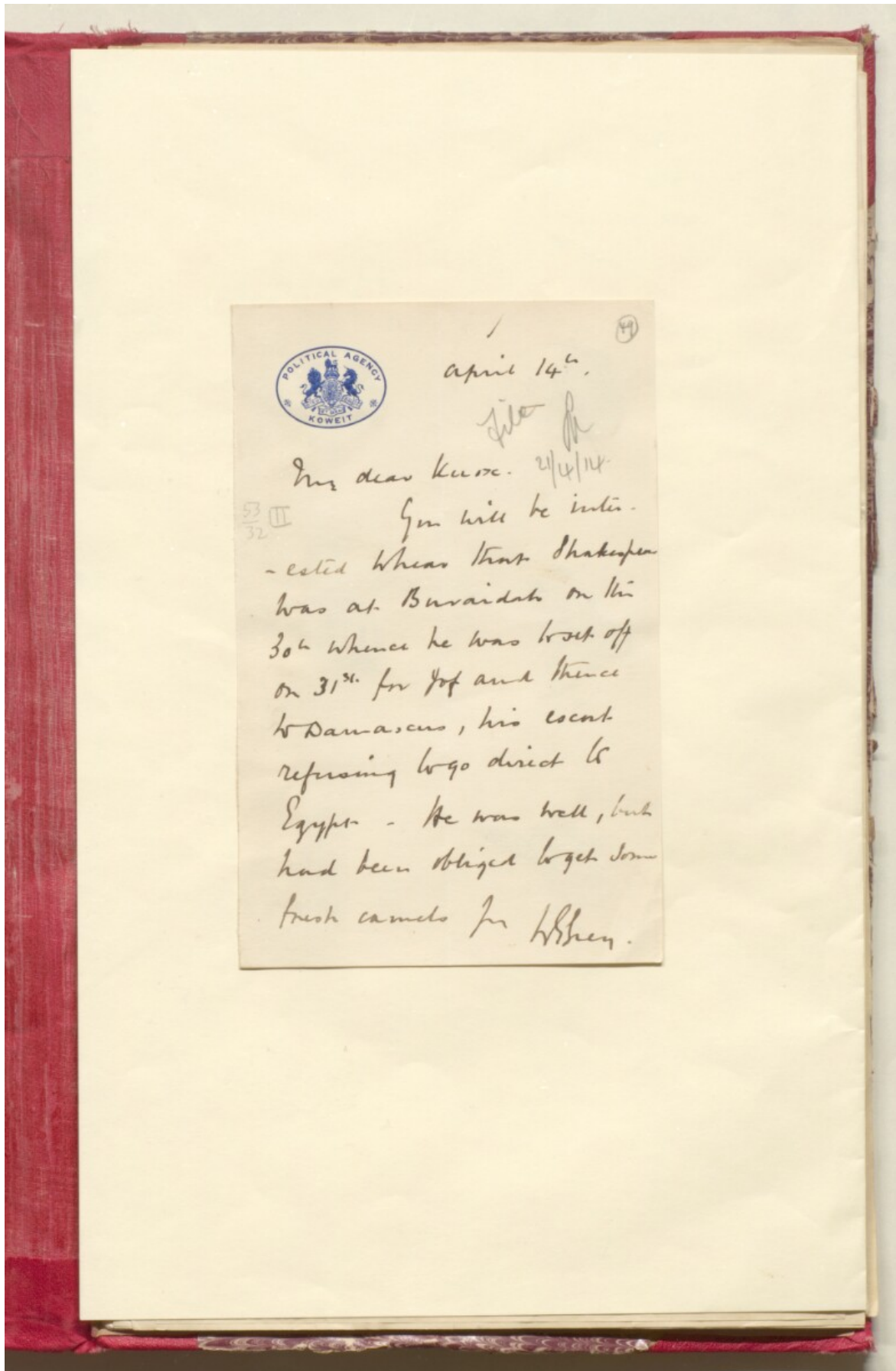
Wm. B. Smith -

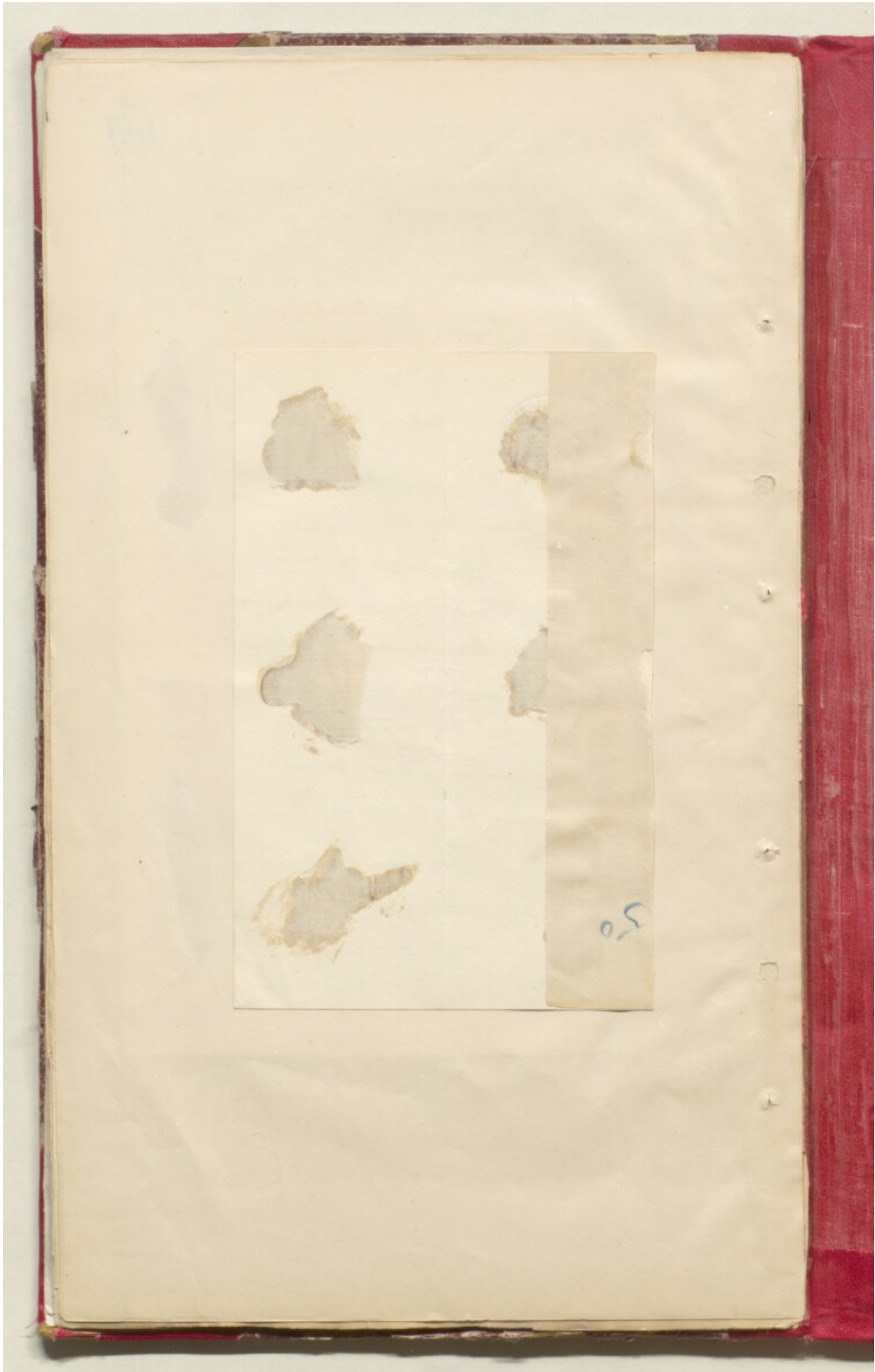
John P. Smith

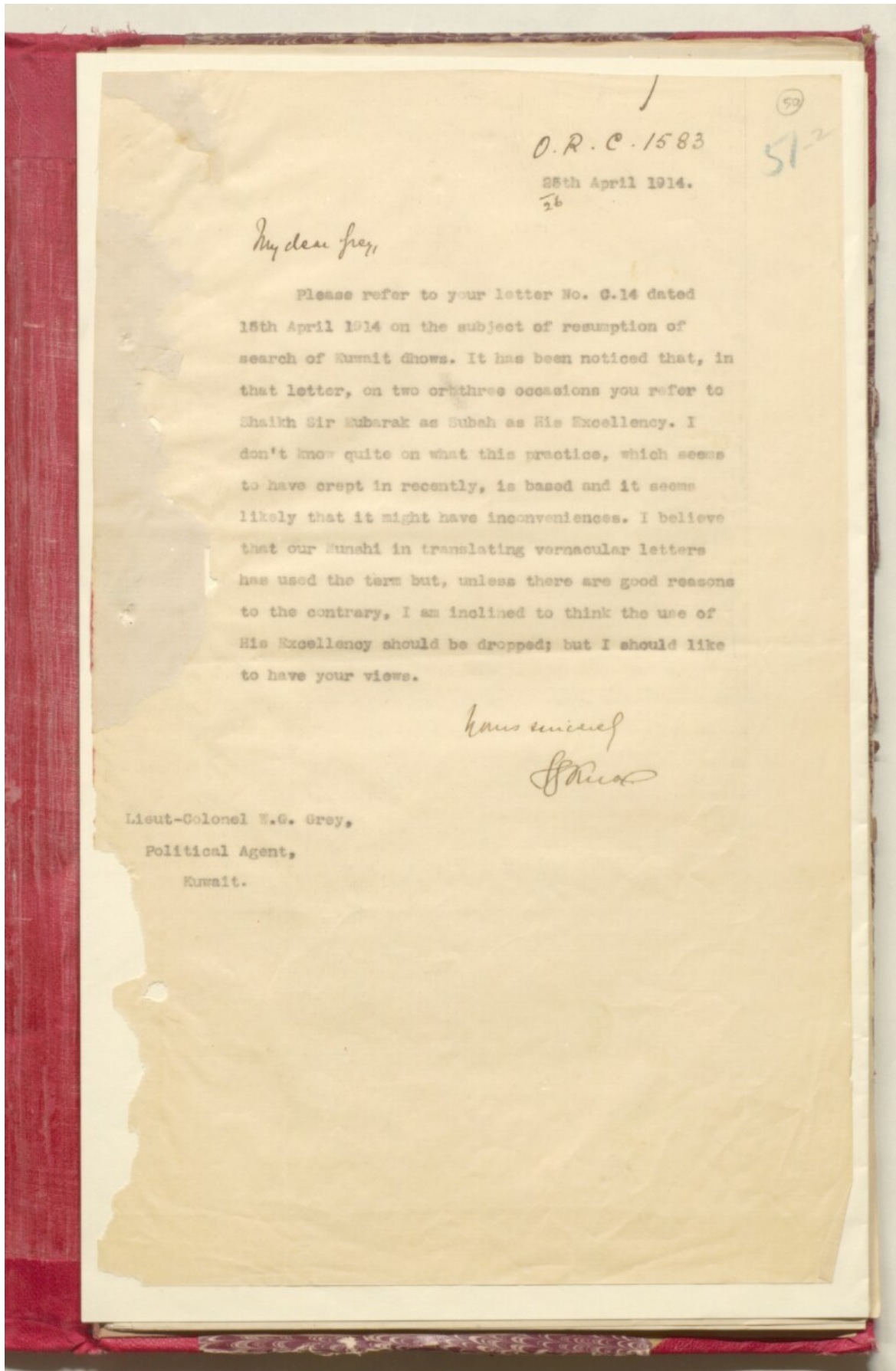
W. B. Smith

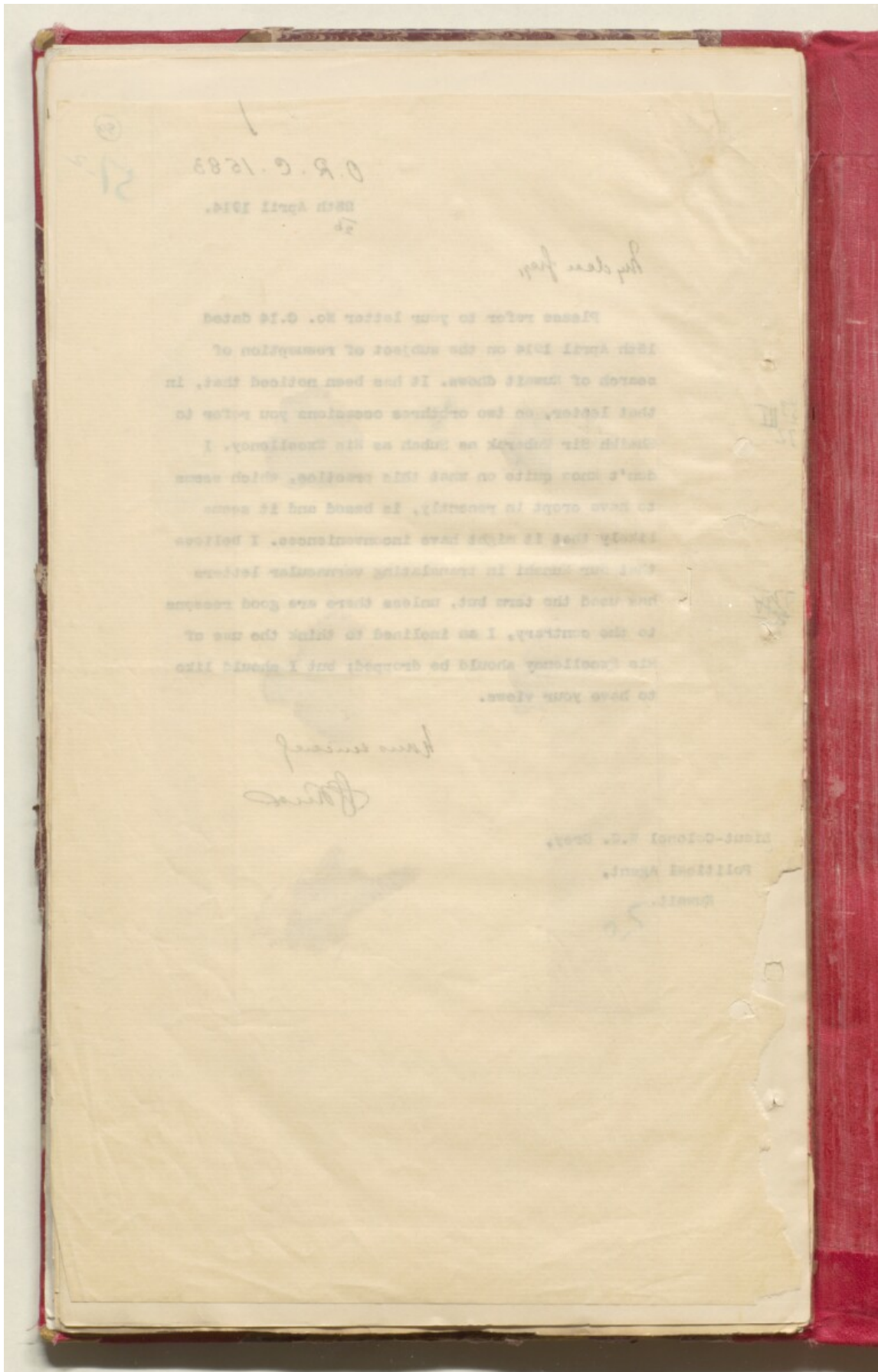
Copy sent by Col. Knox to Major Grey,
on 6/4/14 of Capt. Shakespeare's
letter of 10th March to Mr. Rosmer.
J.P.

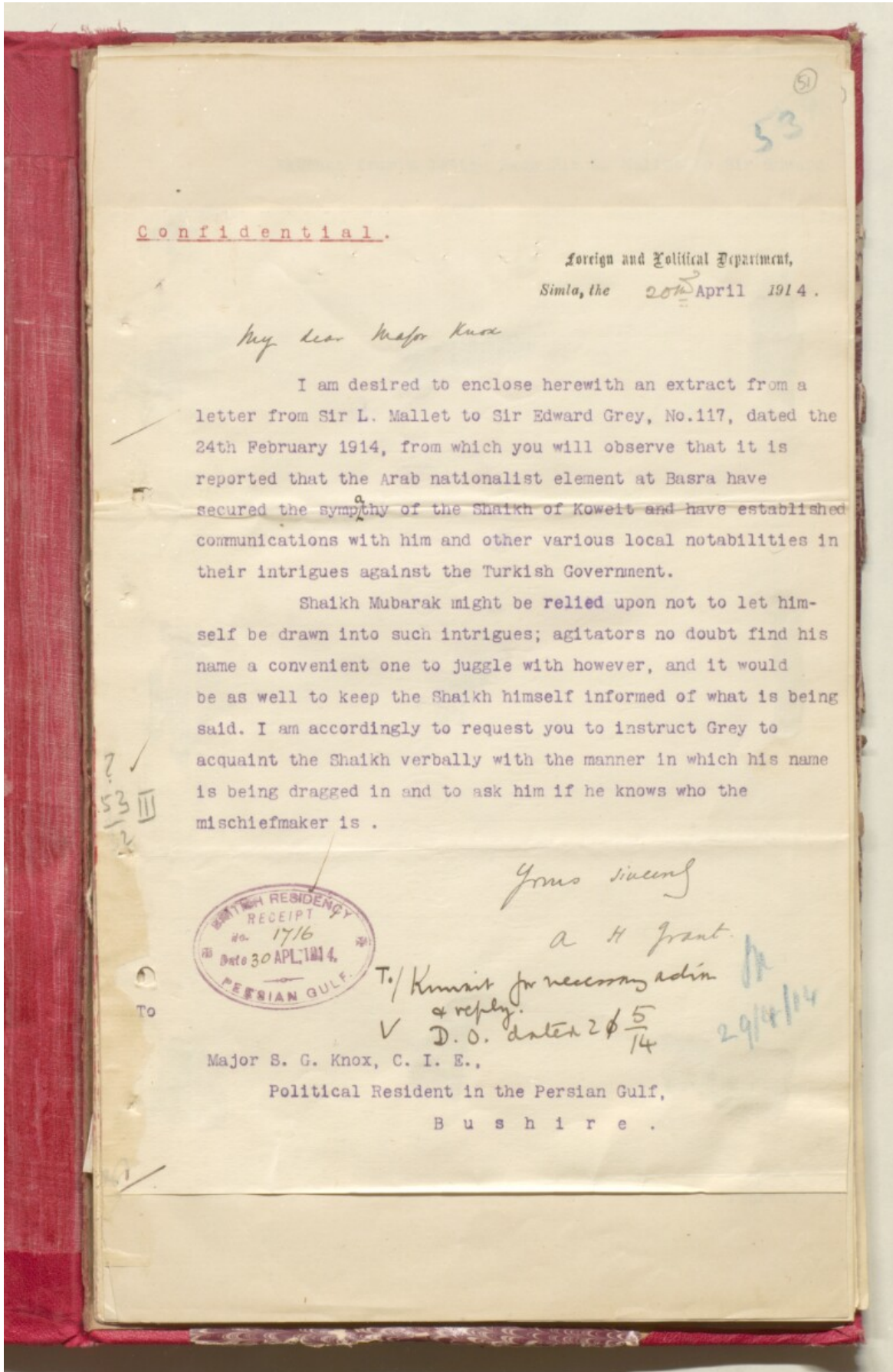


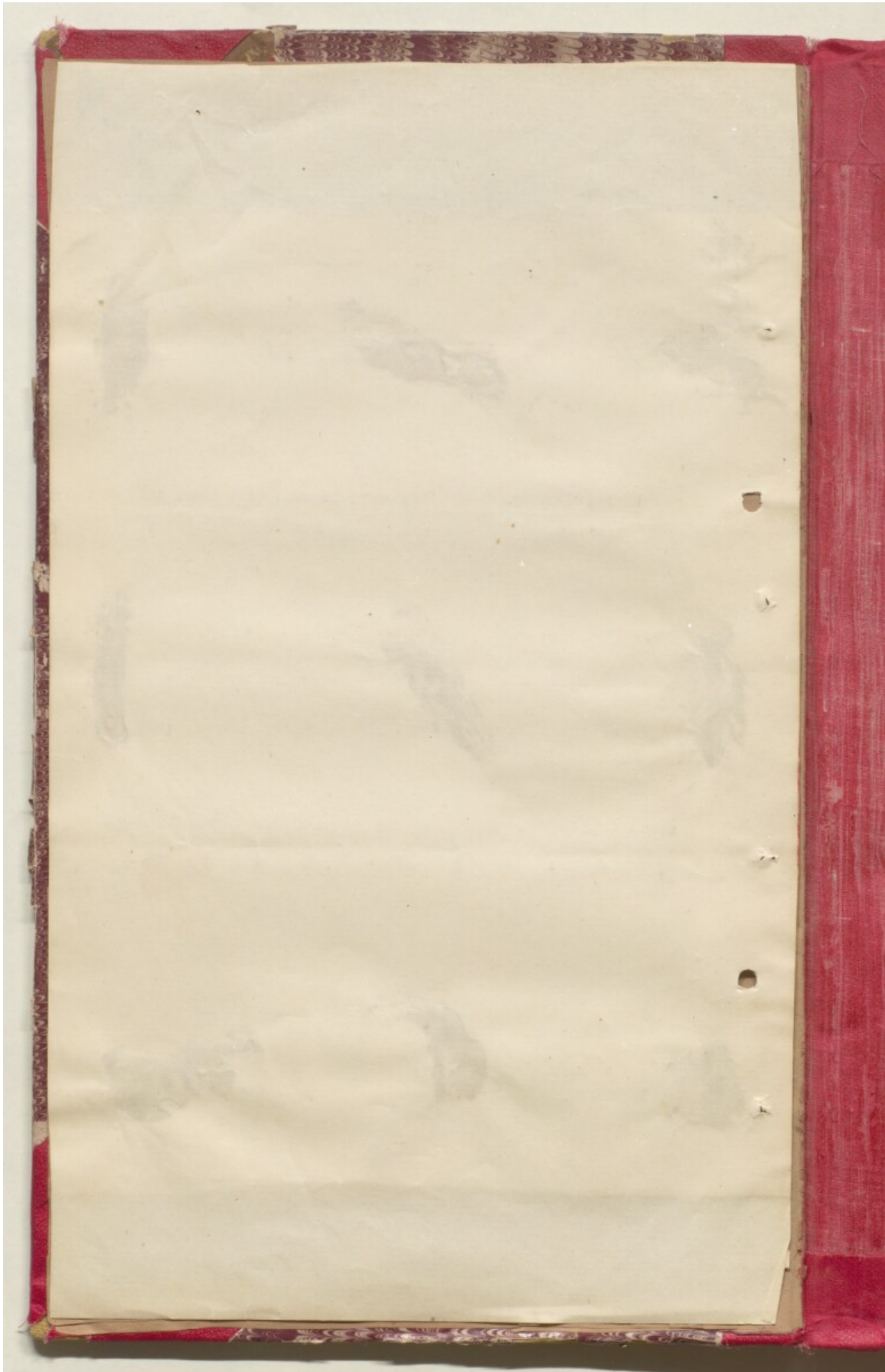


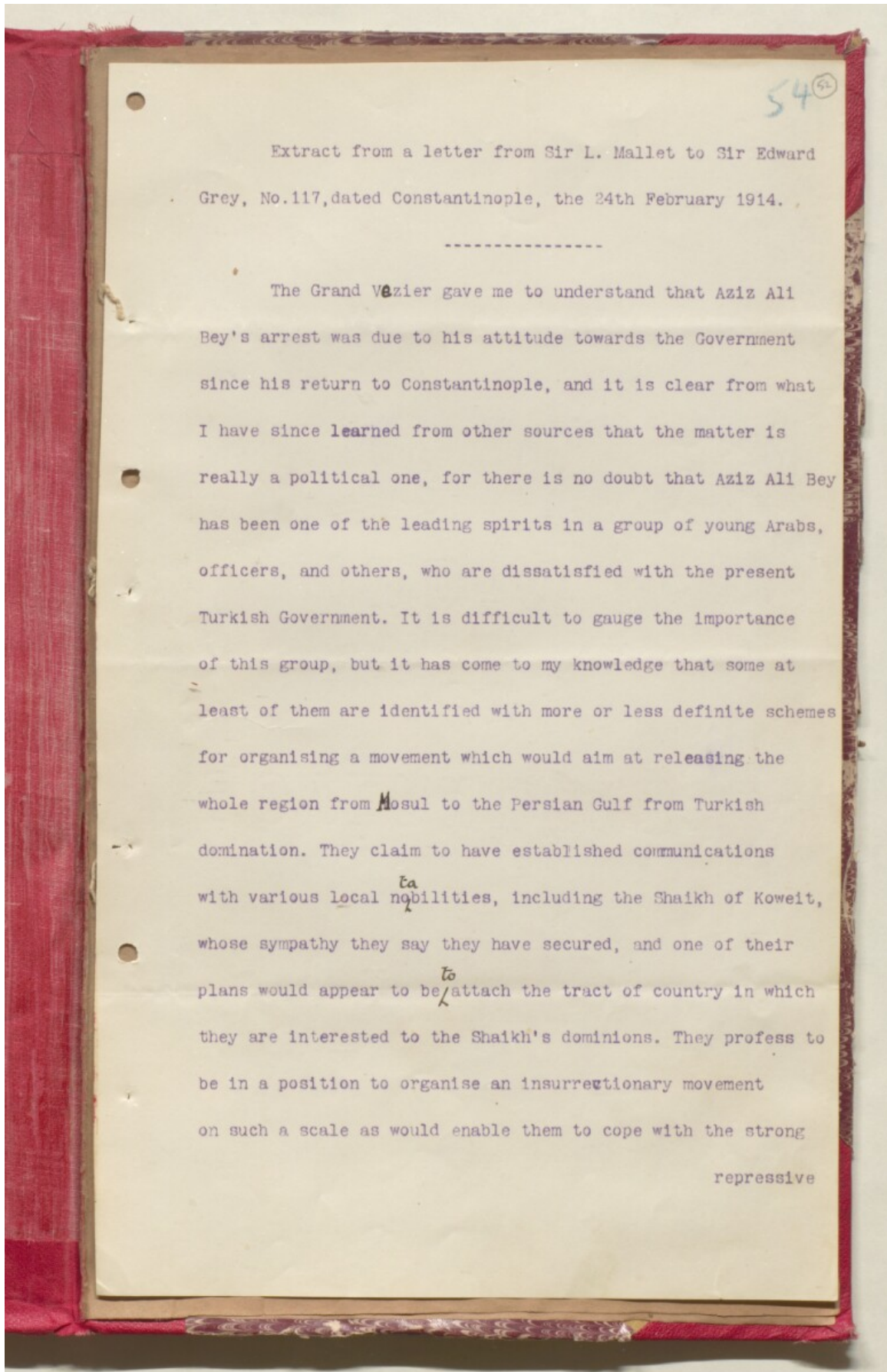






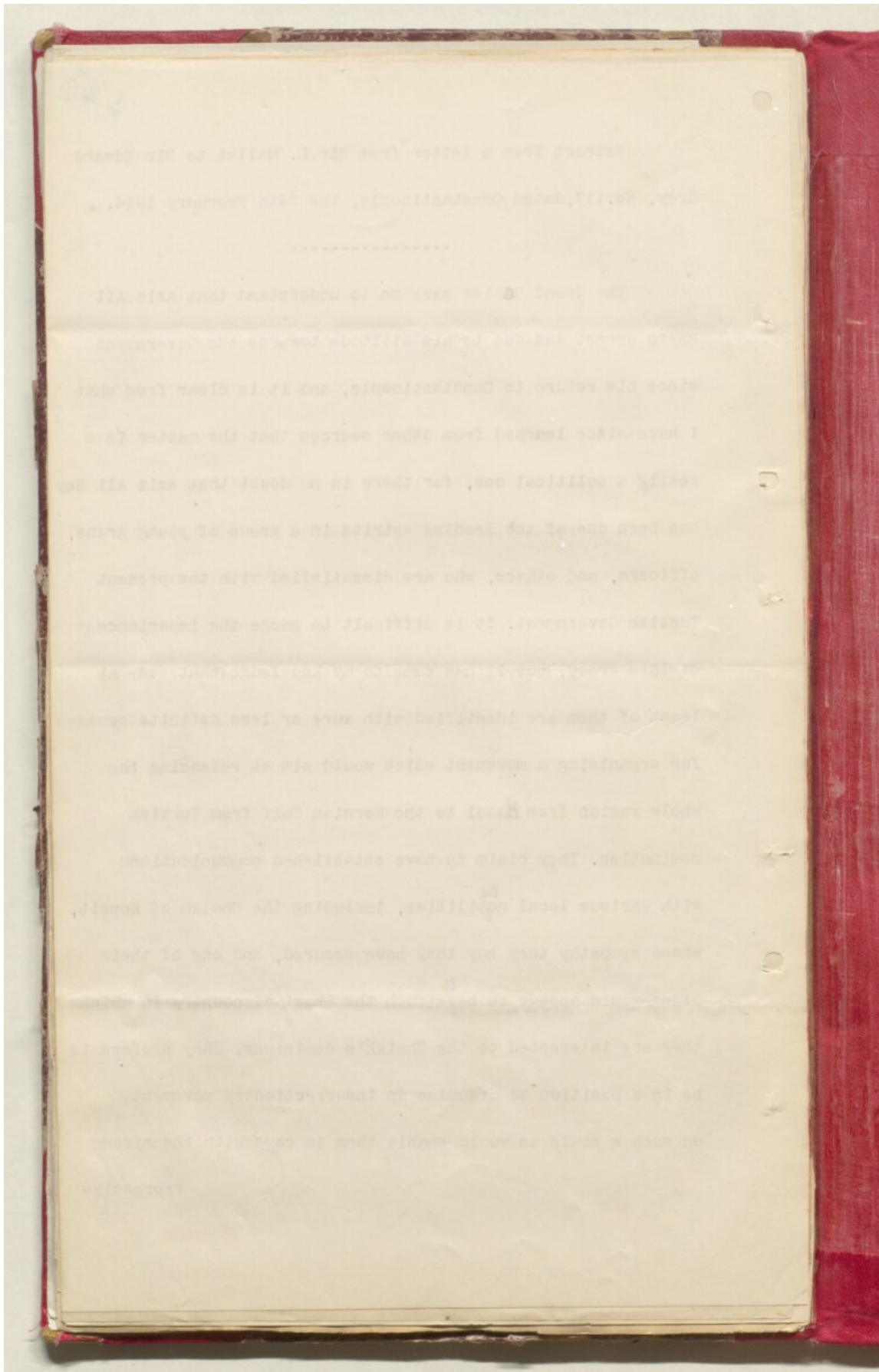


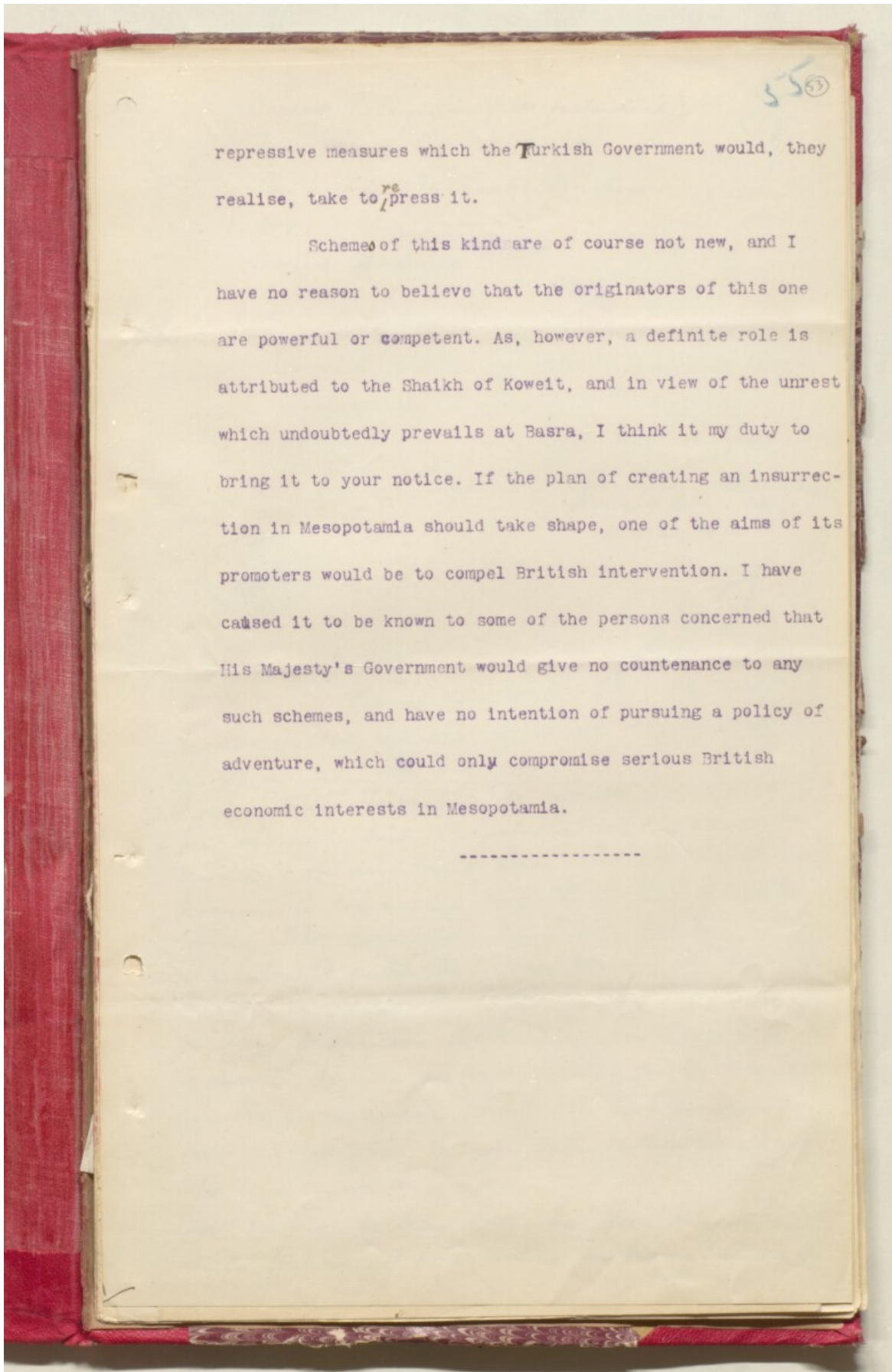




Extract from a letter from Sir L. Mallet to Sir Edward Grey, No.117, dated Constantinople, the 24th February 1914.

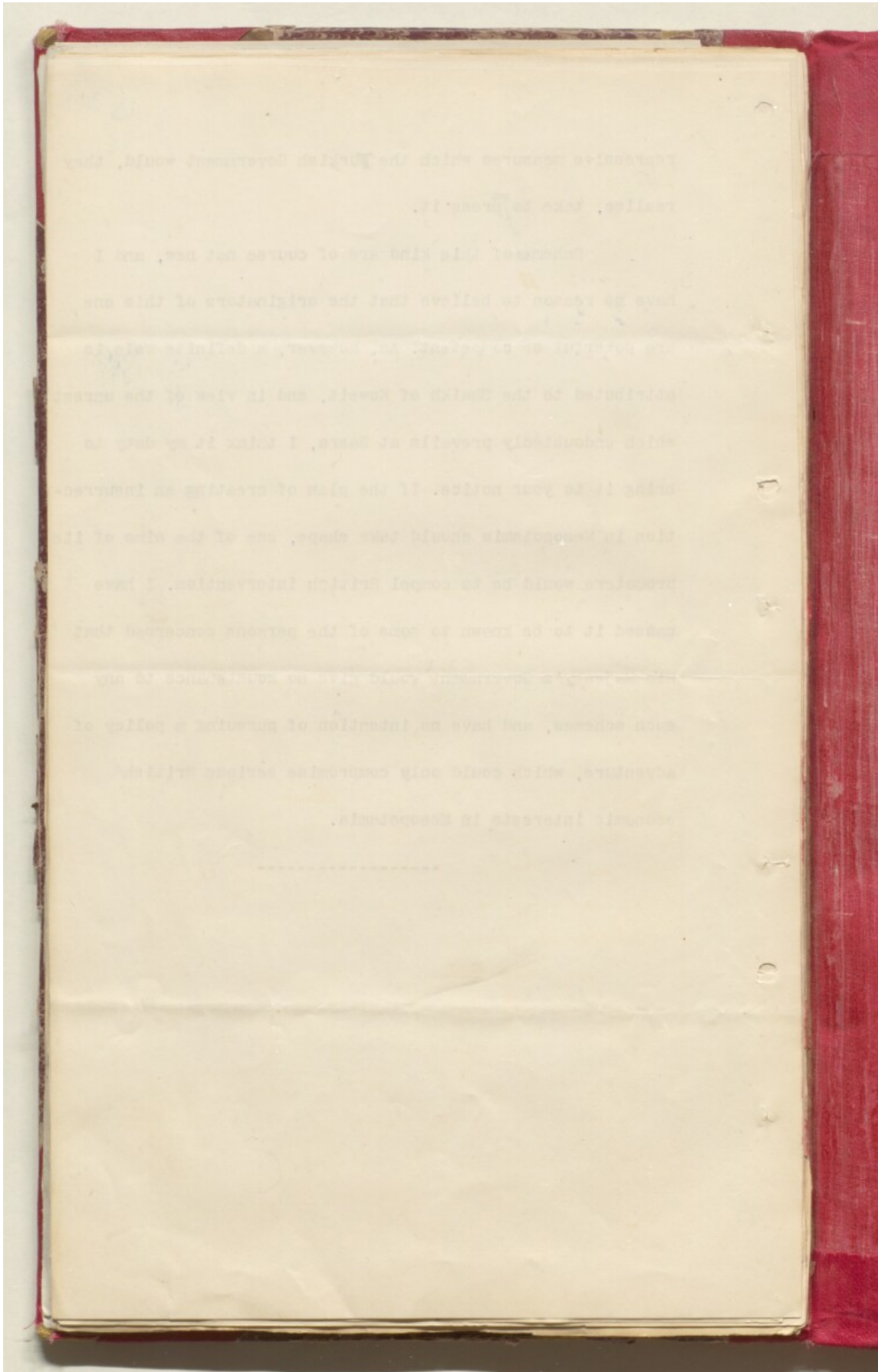
The Grand Vazier gave me to understand that Aziz Ali Bey's arrest was due to his attitude towards the Government since his return to Constantinople, and it is clear from what I have since learned from other sources that the matter is really a political one, for there is no doubt that Aziz Ali Bey has been one of the leading spirits in a group of young Arabs, officers, and others, who are dissatisfied with the present Turkish Government. It is difficult to gauge the importance of this group, but it has come to my knowledge that some at least of them are identified with more or less definite schemes for organising a movement which would aim at releasing the whole region from Mosul to the Persian Gulf from Turkish domination. They claim to have established communications with various local nobilities, including the Shaikh of Koweit, whose sympathy they say they have secured, and one of their plans would appear to be ^{to} attach the tract of country in which they are interested to the Shaikh's dominions. They profess to be in a position to organise an insurrectionary movement on such a scale as would enable them to cope with the strong repressive

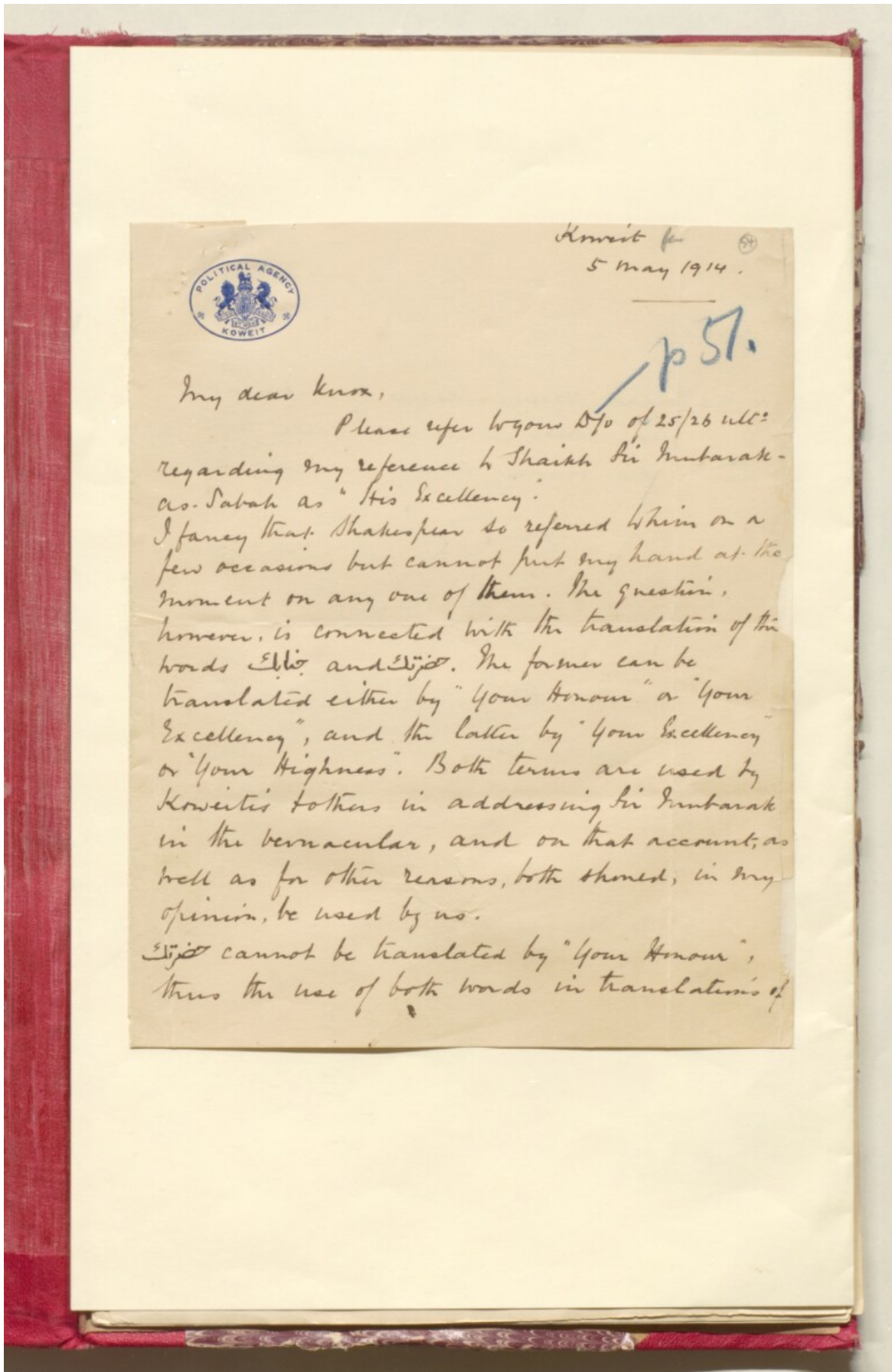


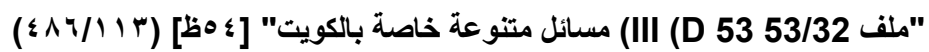


repressive measures which the Turkish Government would, they realise, take to ^{re}press it.

Schemes of this kind are of course not new, and I have no reason to believe that the originators of this one are powerful or competent. As, however, a definite role is attributed to the Shaikh of Koweit, and in view of the unrest which undoubtedly prevails at Basra, I think it my duty to bring it to your notice. If the plan of creating an insurrection in Mesopotamia should take shape, one of the aims of its promoters would be to compel British intervention. I have caused it to be known to some of the persons concerned that His Majesty's Government would give no countenance to any such schemes, and have no intention of pursuing a policy of adventure, which could only compromise serious British economic interests in Mesopotamia.







Wbury



Socket Telegram (Confidential).

From Grey P.A. Kuwait:

To Knox Offg Reside Bushire.

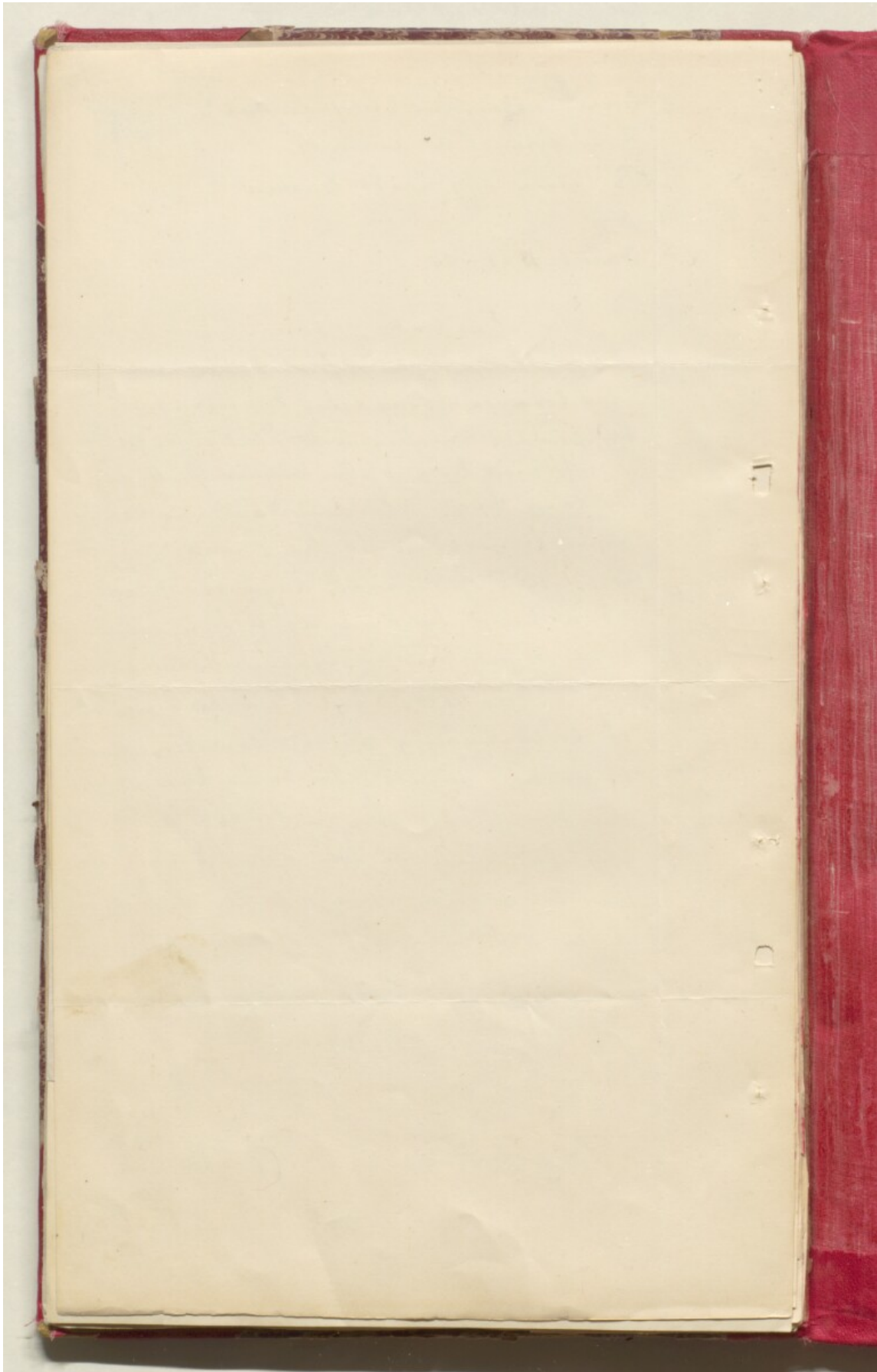
D.O.

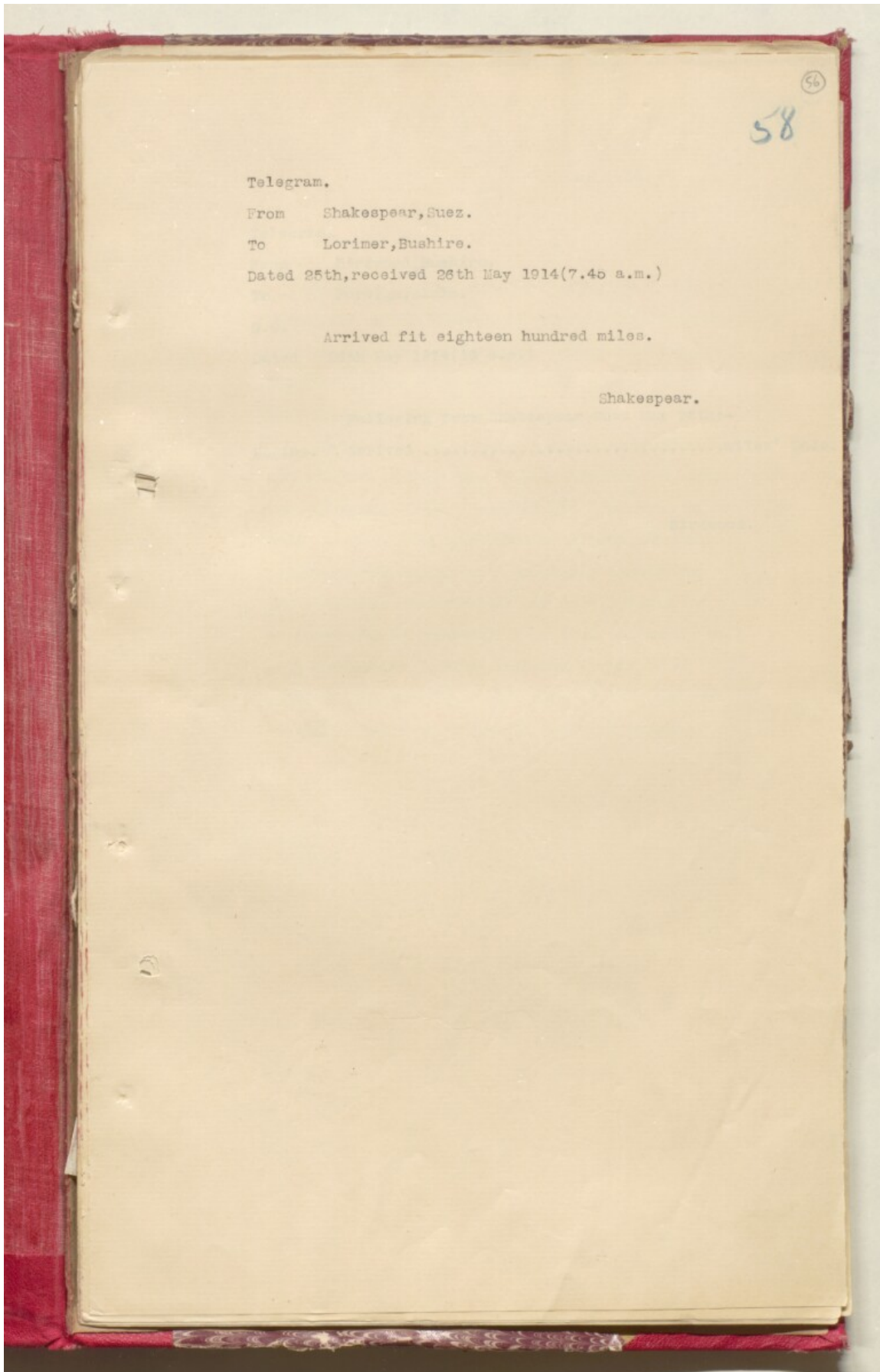
Dated 18-5-14.

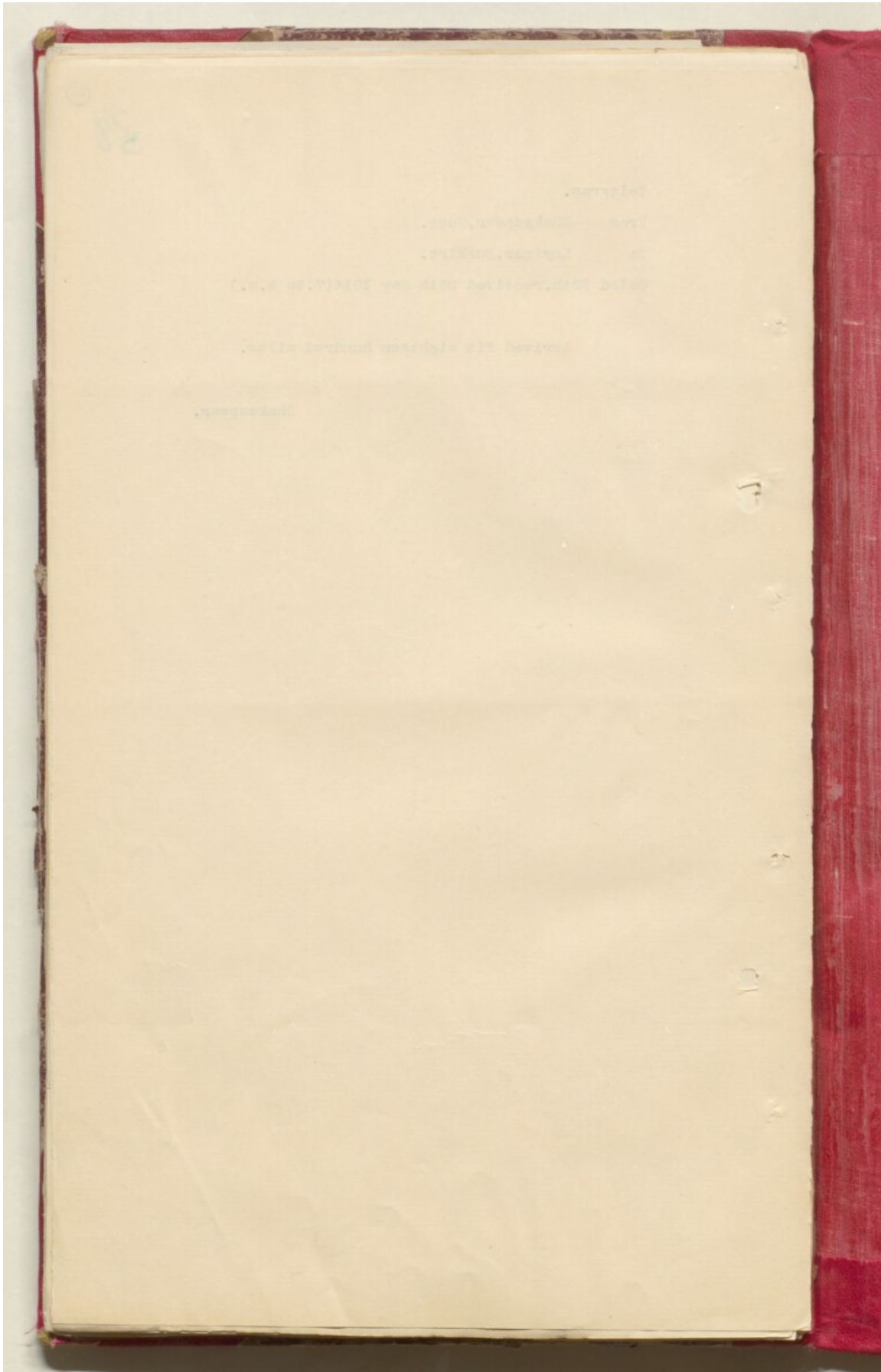
Grants' D/O of 20th April last and its
enclosures regarding Imbarak's
supposed connection with plots against Turkey.
I informed him of the matter yesterday.
He said that [although rumours reached
him from time to time regarding the
condition of Basrah and its neigh-
-bourhood he had no information
concerning the intrigues mentioned by
Sir L. Mallet, and had no intention
of encouraging or even countenancing
such movements.] On being asked who
the mischiefmaker is likely to be he
replied that the use of his name in
this connection might safely be put
down to Saïyid Palik of Basrah.

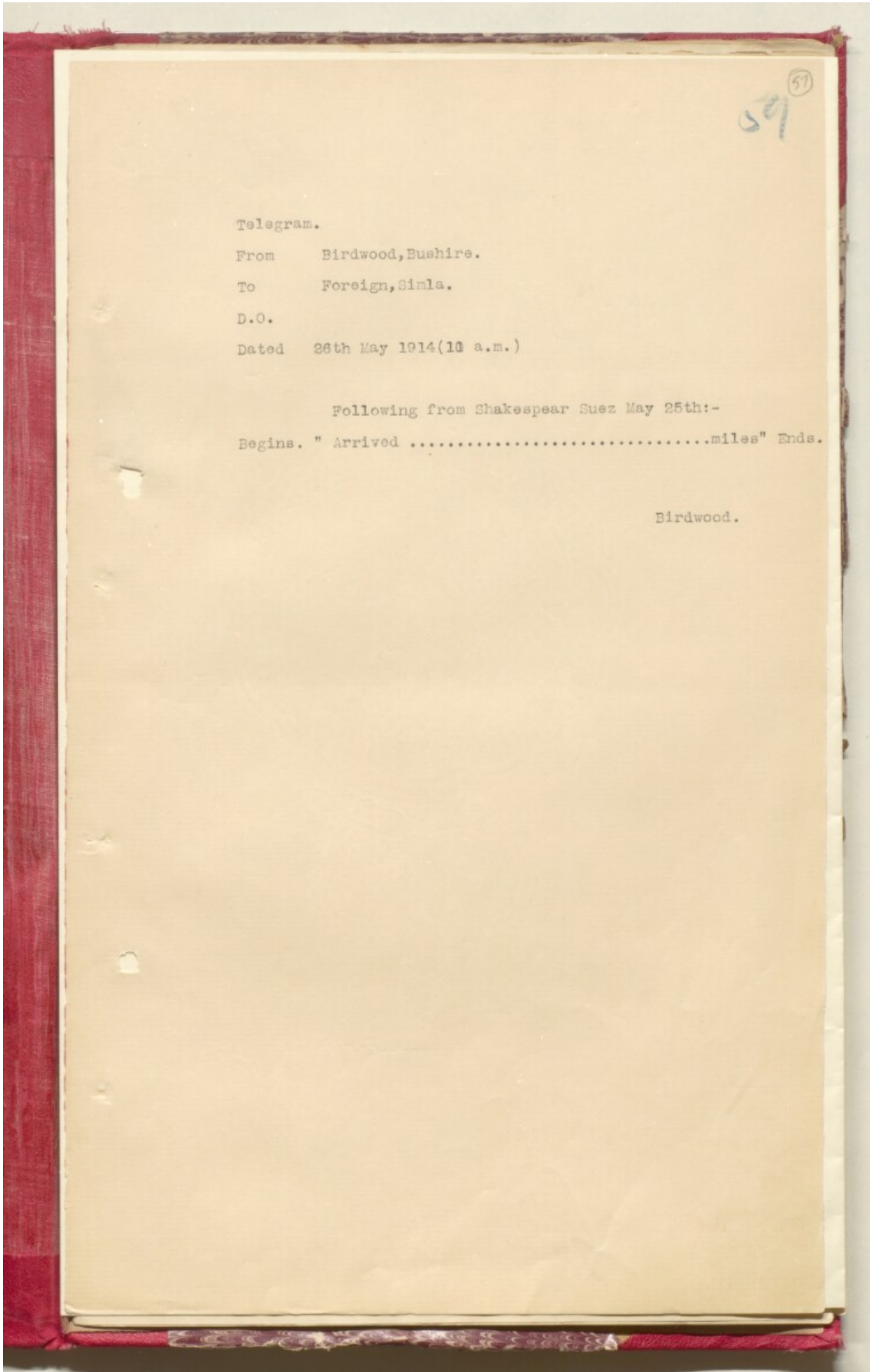
W. Grey

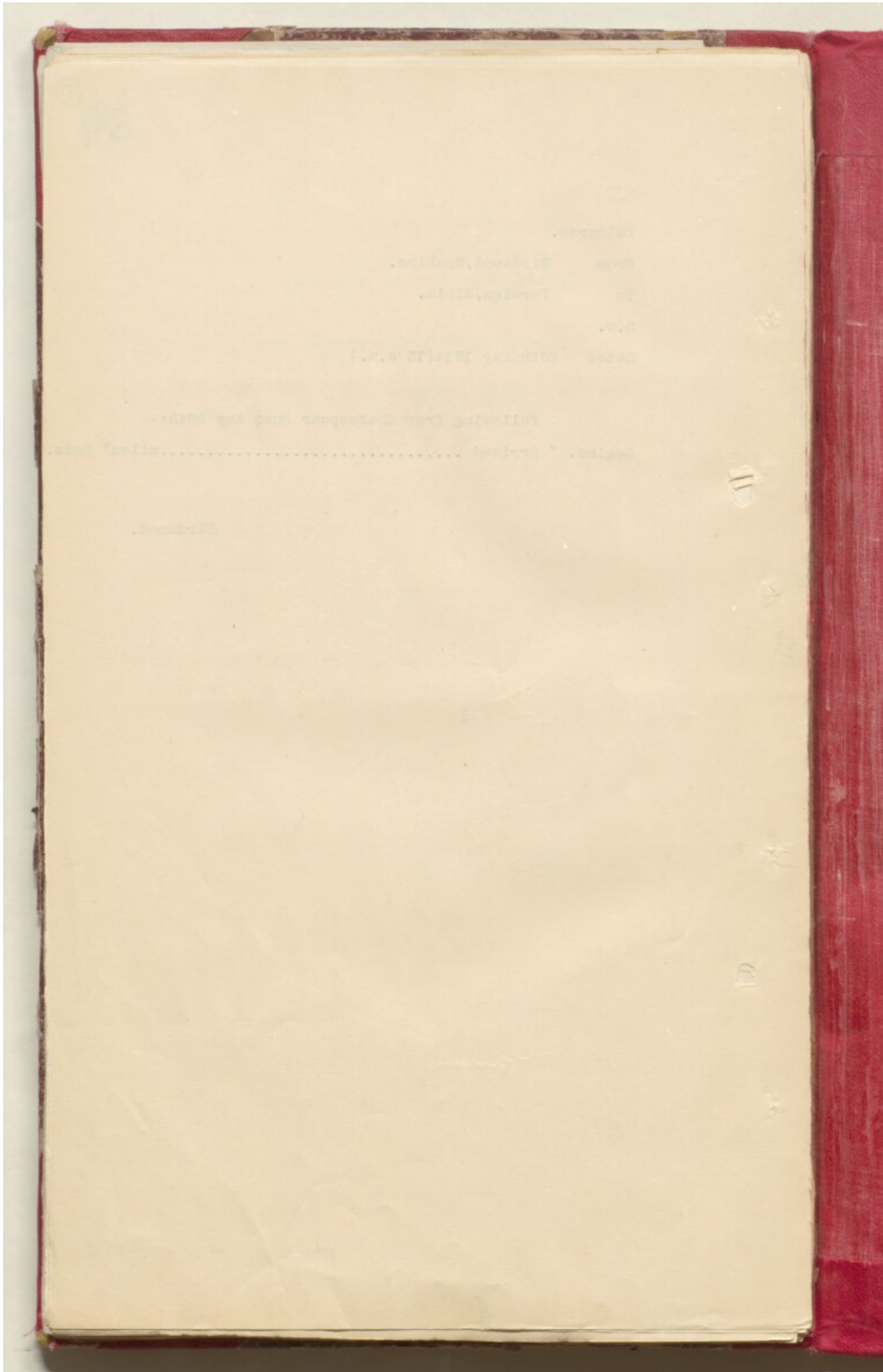
Ph
18.5.14

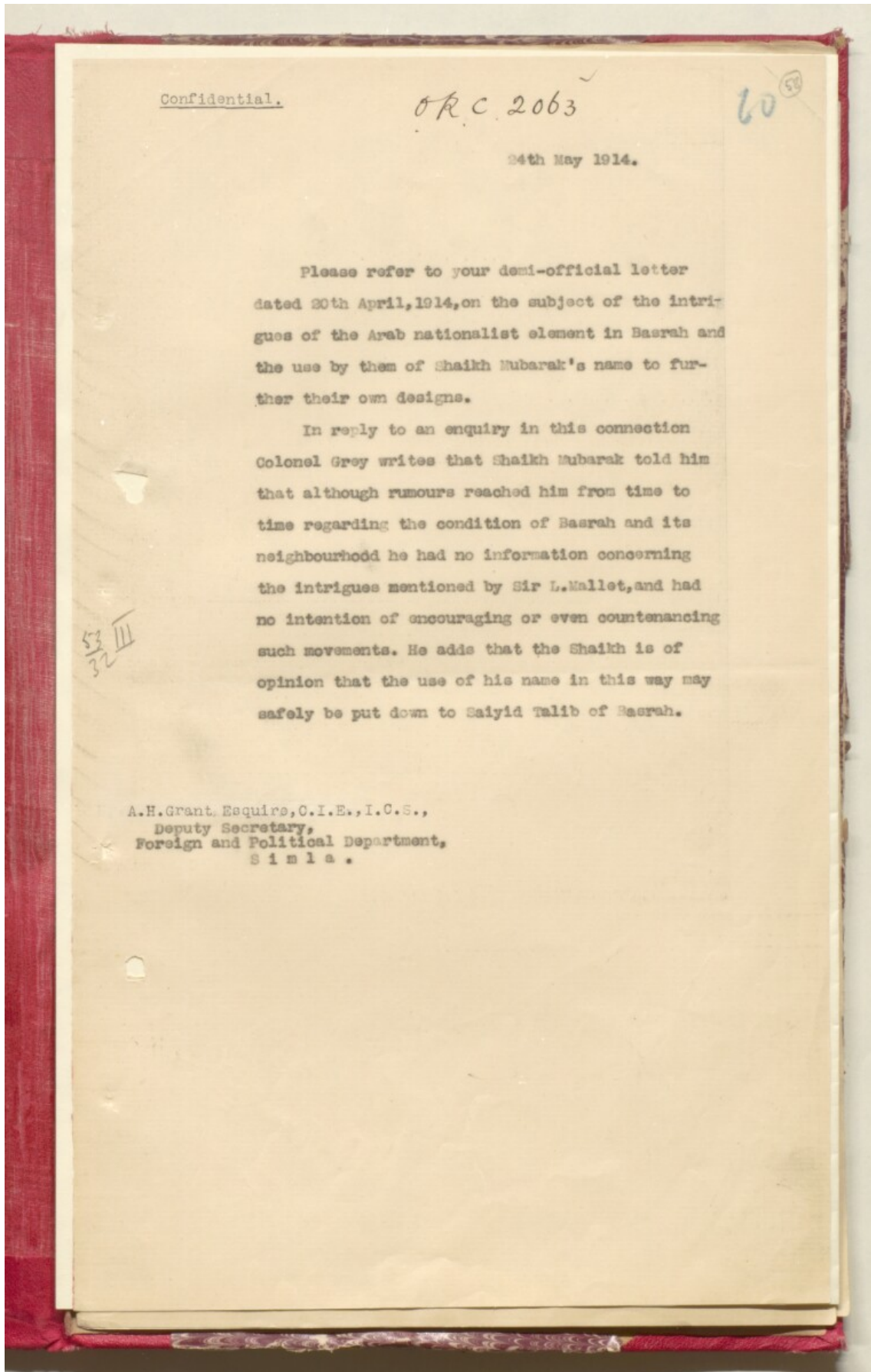


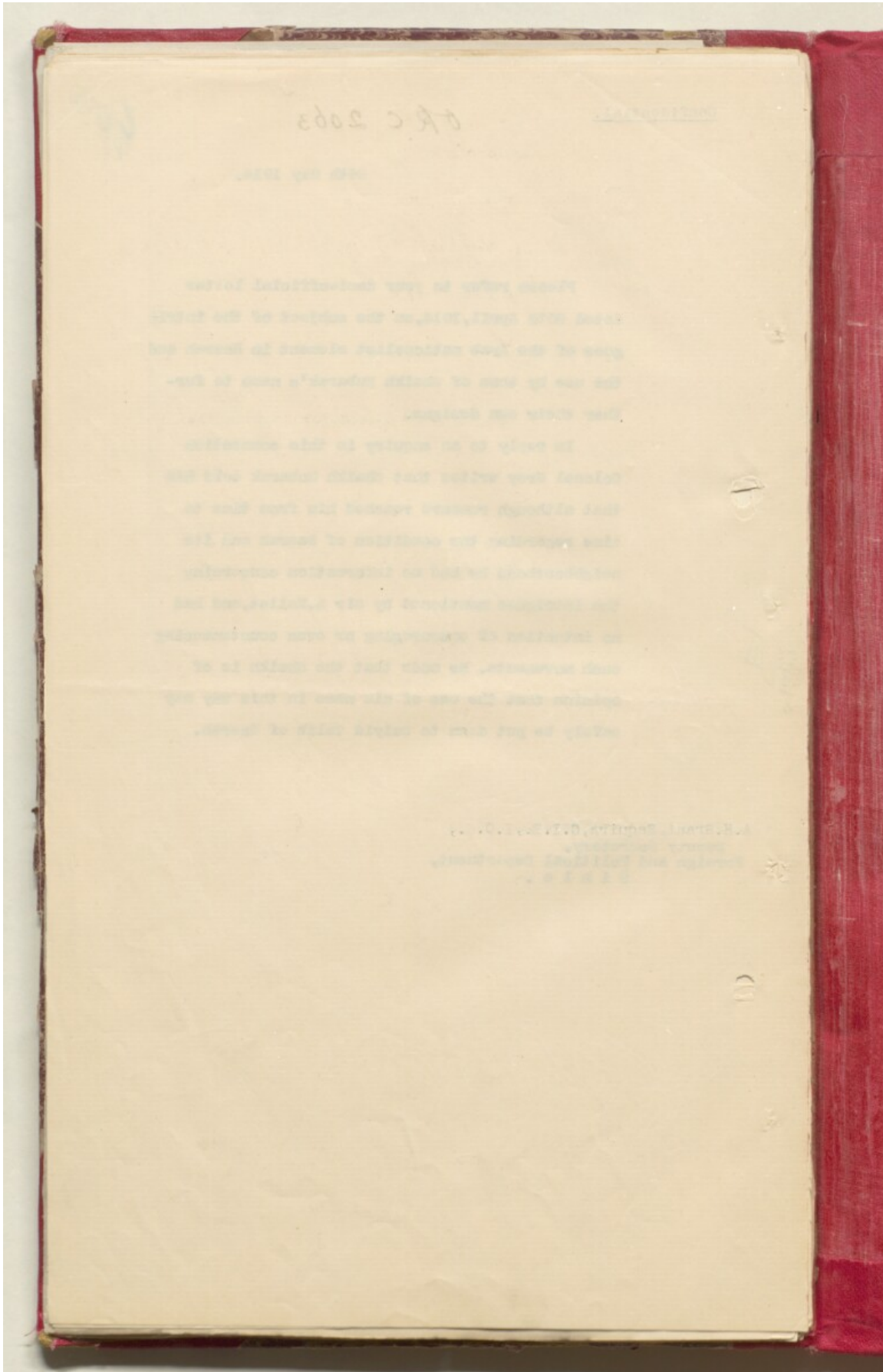


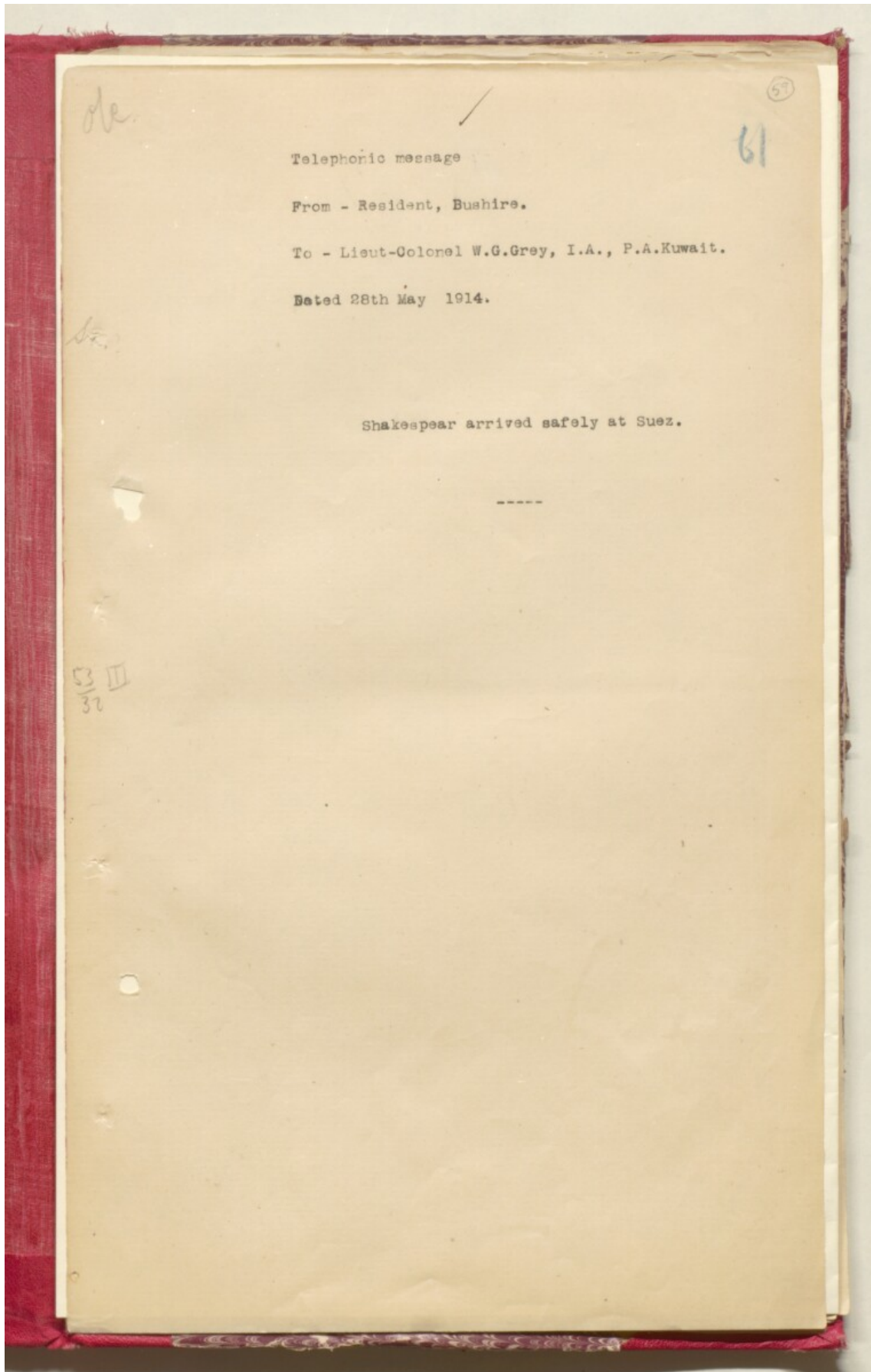


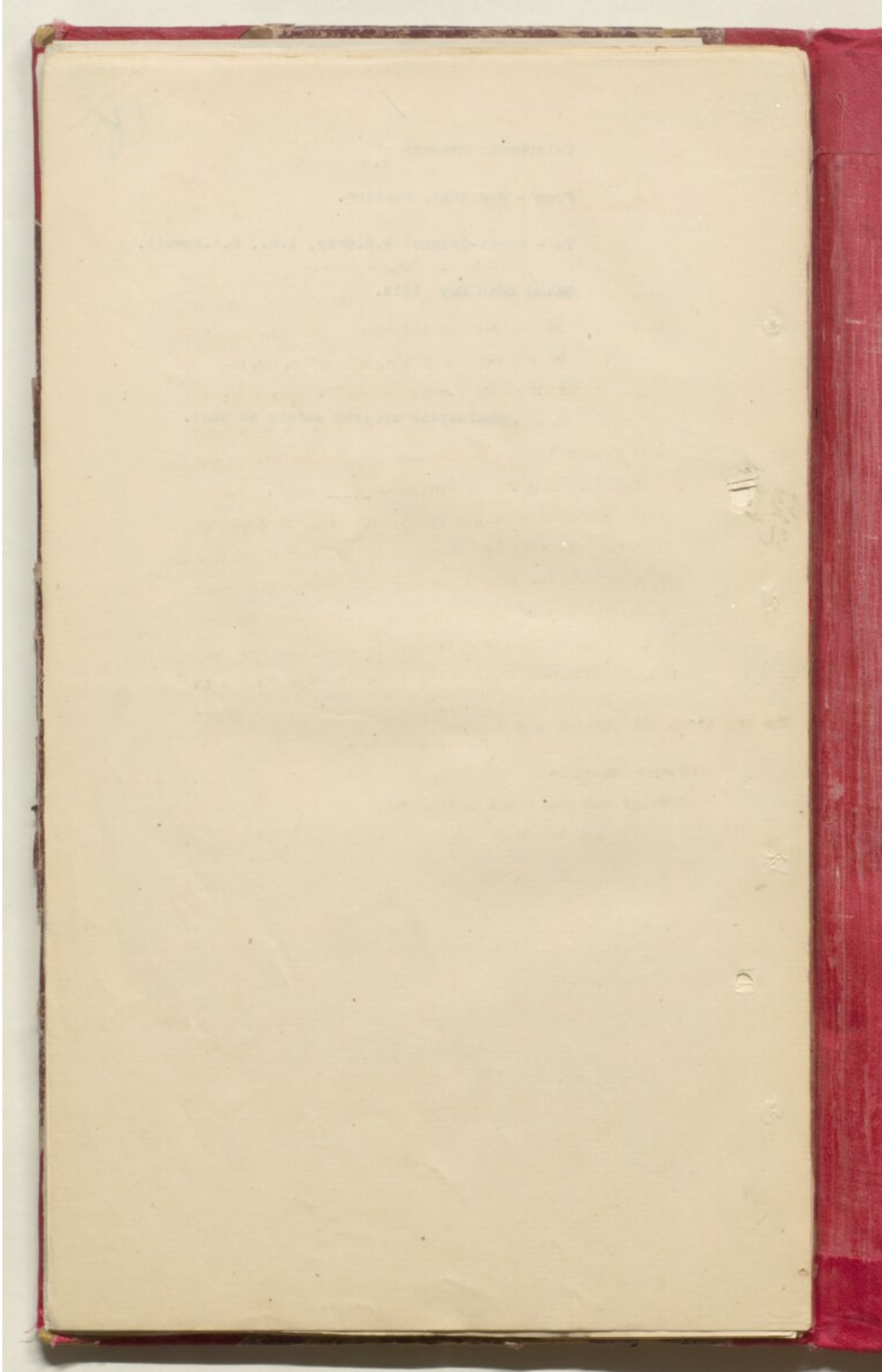


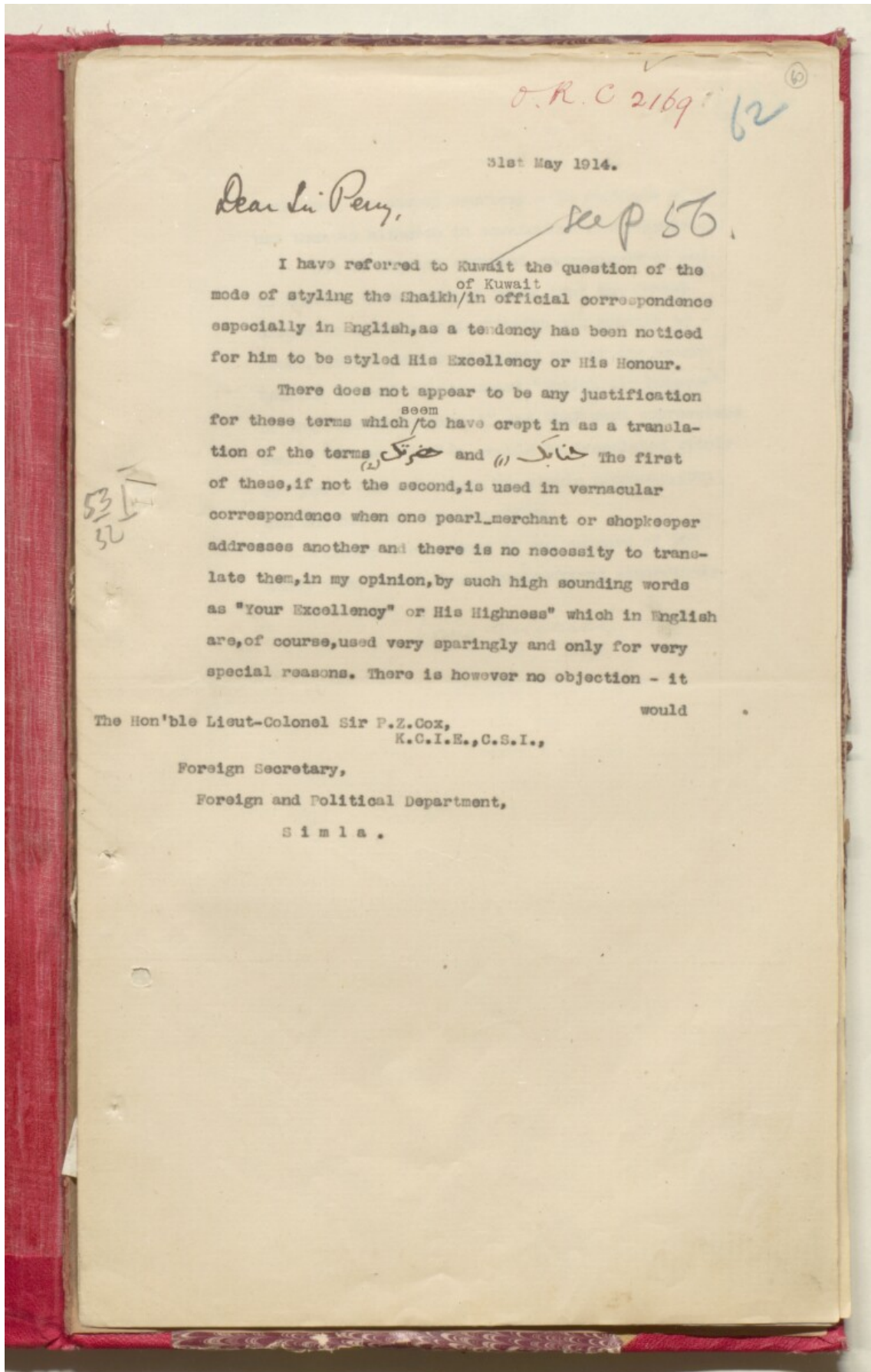


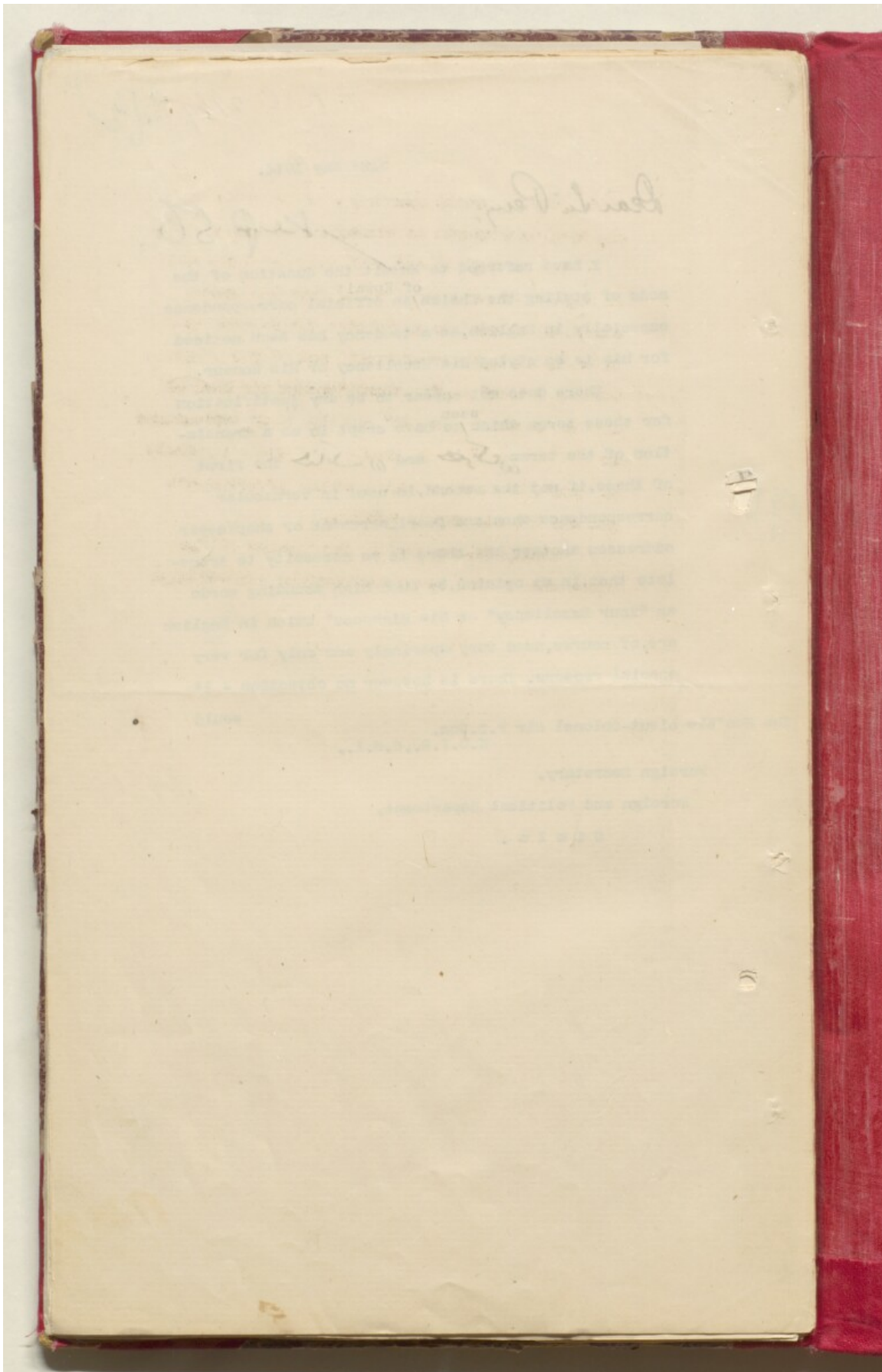


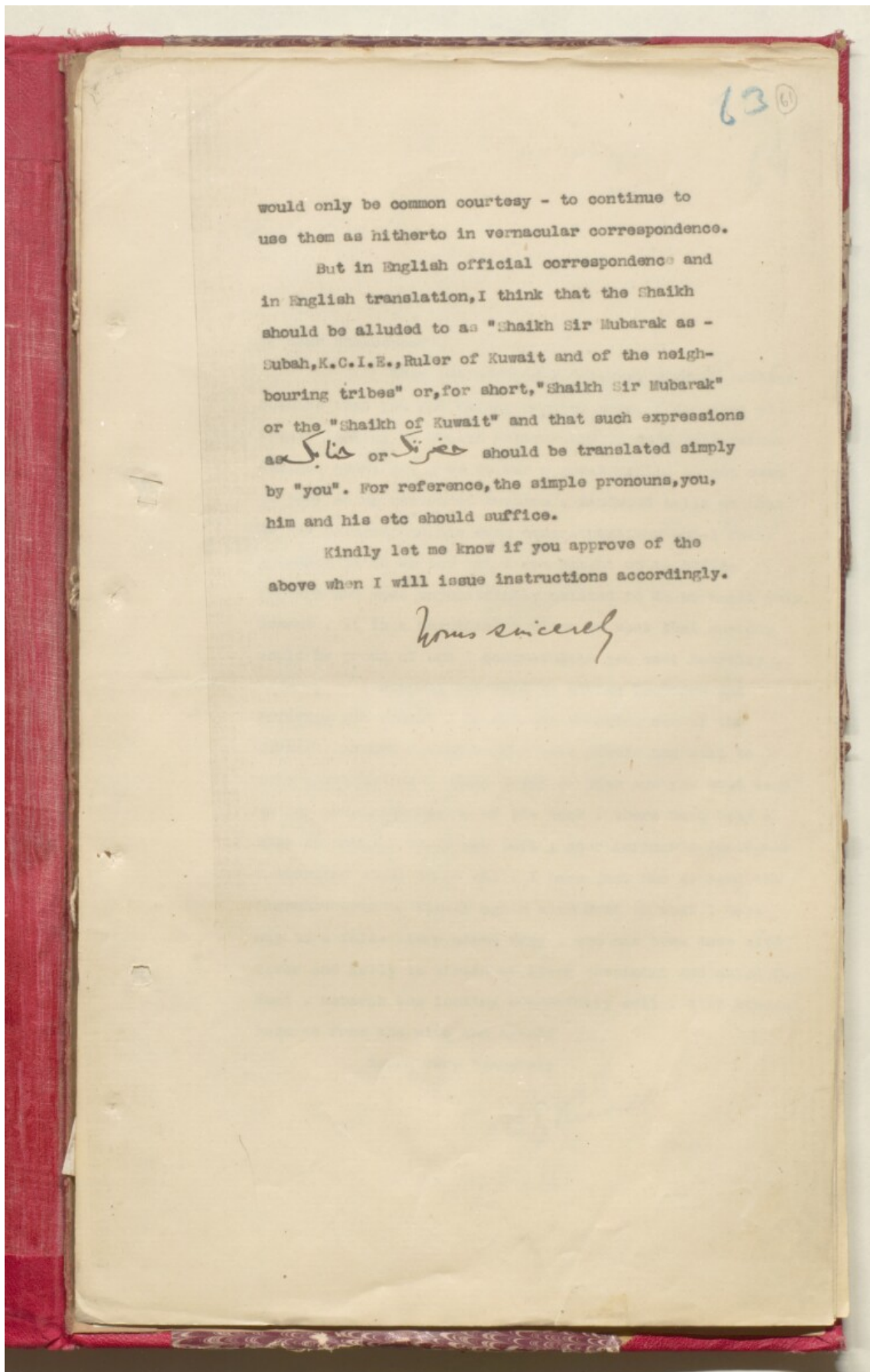










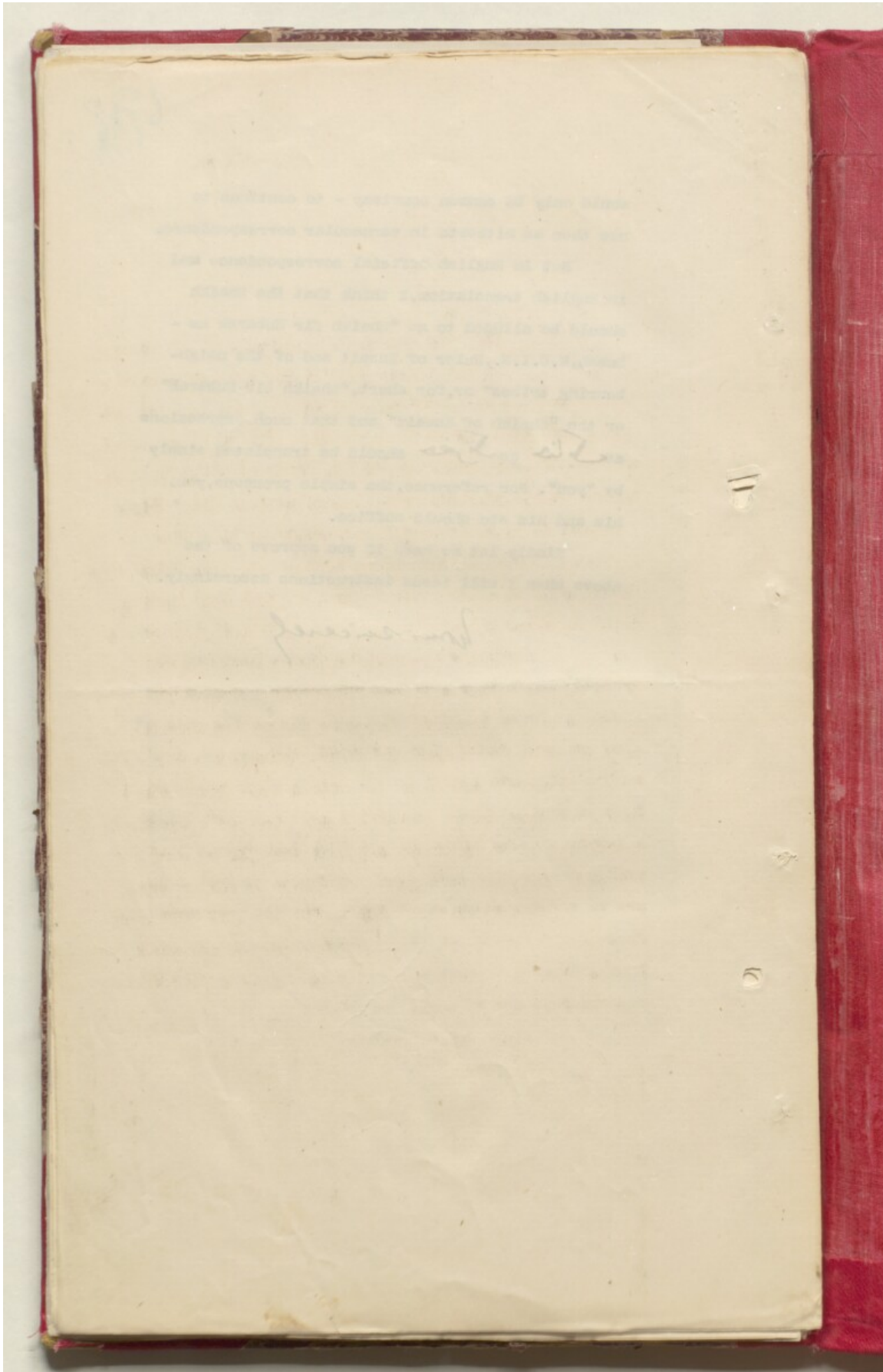
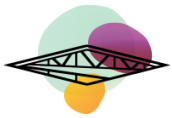


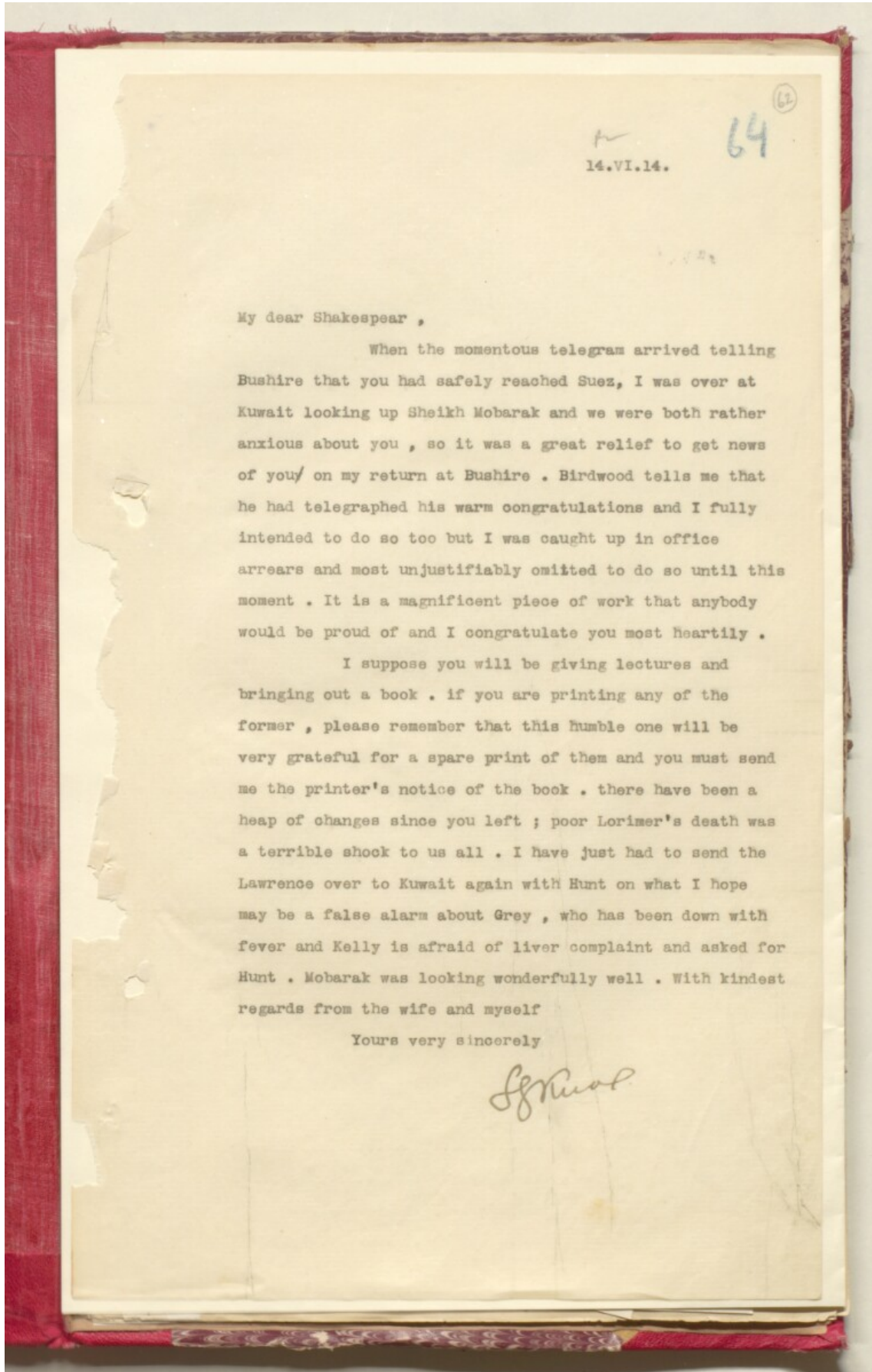
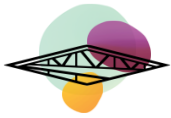
would only be common courtesy - to continue to use them as hitherto in vernacular correspondence.

But in English official correspondence and in English translation, I think that the Shaikh should be alluded to as "Shaikh Sir Mubarak as - Subah, K.C.I.E., Ruler of Kuwait and of the neighbouring tribes" or, for short, "Shaikh Sir Mubarak" or the "Shaikh of Kuwait" and that such expressions as *خاتبك* or *حضرتك* should be translated simply by "you". For reference, the simple pronouns, you, him and his etc should suffice.

Kindly let me know if you approve of the above when I will issue instructions accordingly.

Yours sincerely





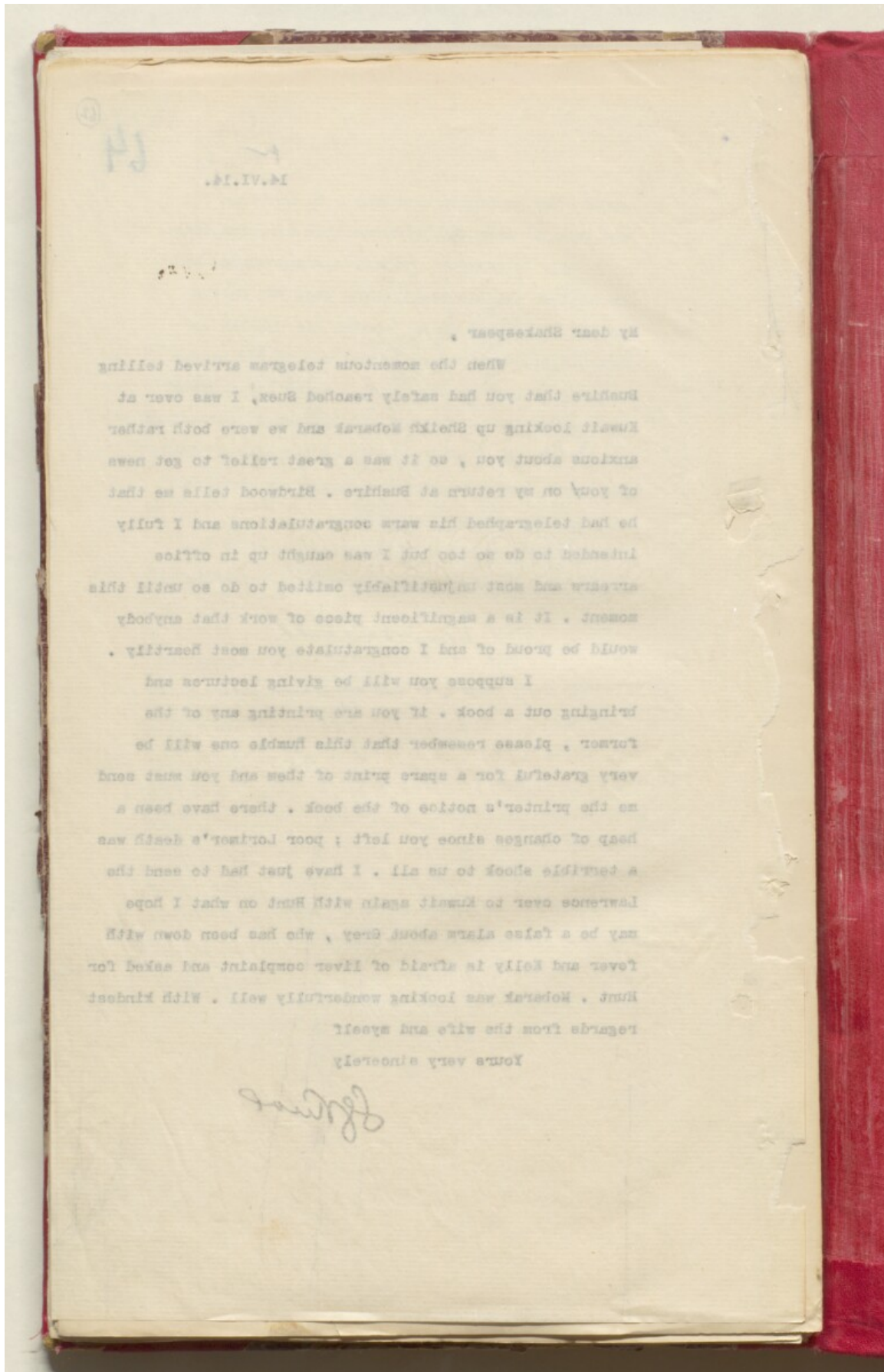
My dear Shakespear ,

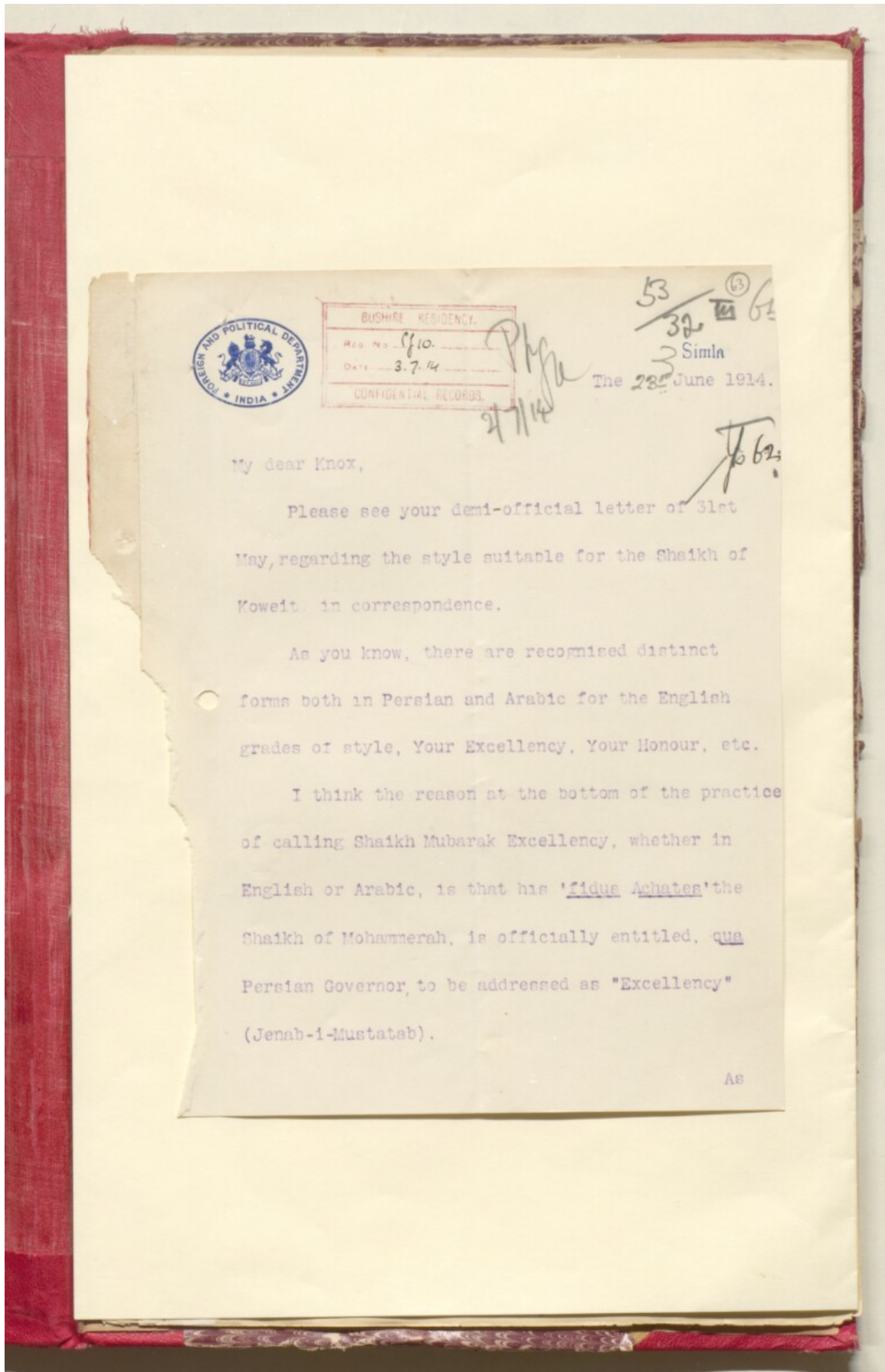
When the momentous telegram arrived telling Bushire that you had safely reached Suez, I was over at Kuwait looking up Sheikh Mobarak and we were both rather anxious about you , so it was a great relief to get news of you/ on my return at Bushire . Birdwood tells me that he had telegraphed his warm congratulations and I fully intended to do so too but I was caught up in office arrears and most unjustifiably omitted to do so until this moment . It is a magnificent piece of work that anybody would be proud of and I congratulate you most heartily .

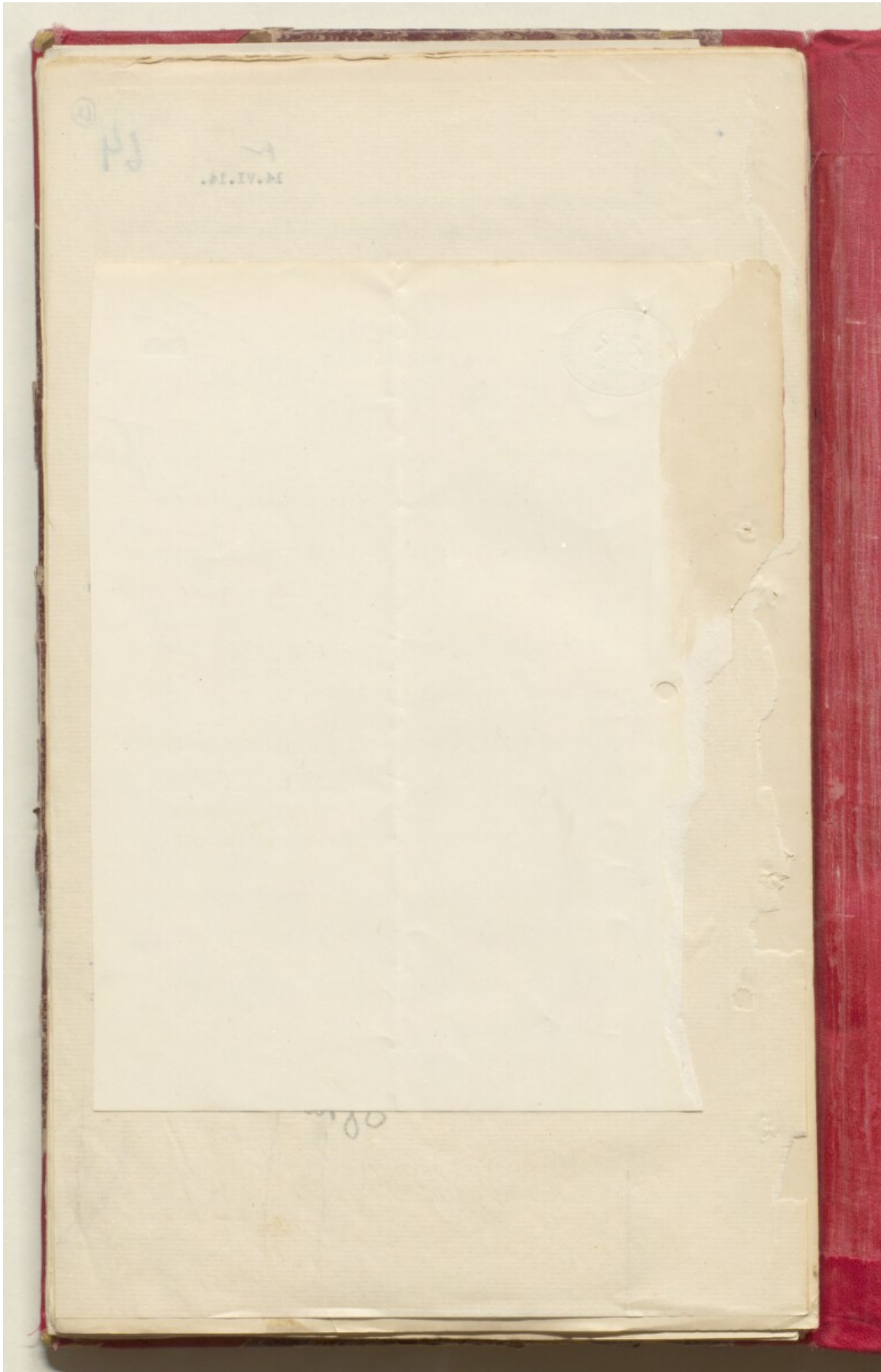
I suppose you will be giving lectures and bringing out a book . if you are printing any of the former , please remember that this humble one will be very grateful for a spare print of them and you must send me the printer's notice of the book . there have been a heap of changes since you left ; poor Lorimer's death was a terrible shock to us all . I have just had to send the Lawrence over to Kuwait again with Hunt on what I hope may be a false alarm about Grey , who has been down with fever and Kelly is afraid of liver complaint and asked for Hunt . Mobarak was looking wonderfully well . With kindest regards from the wife and myself

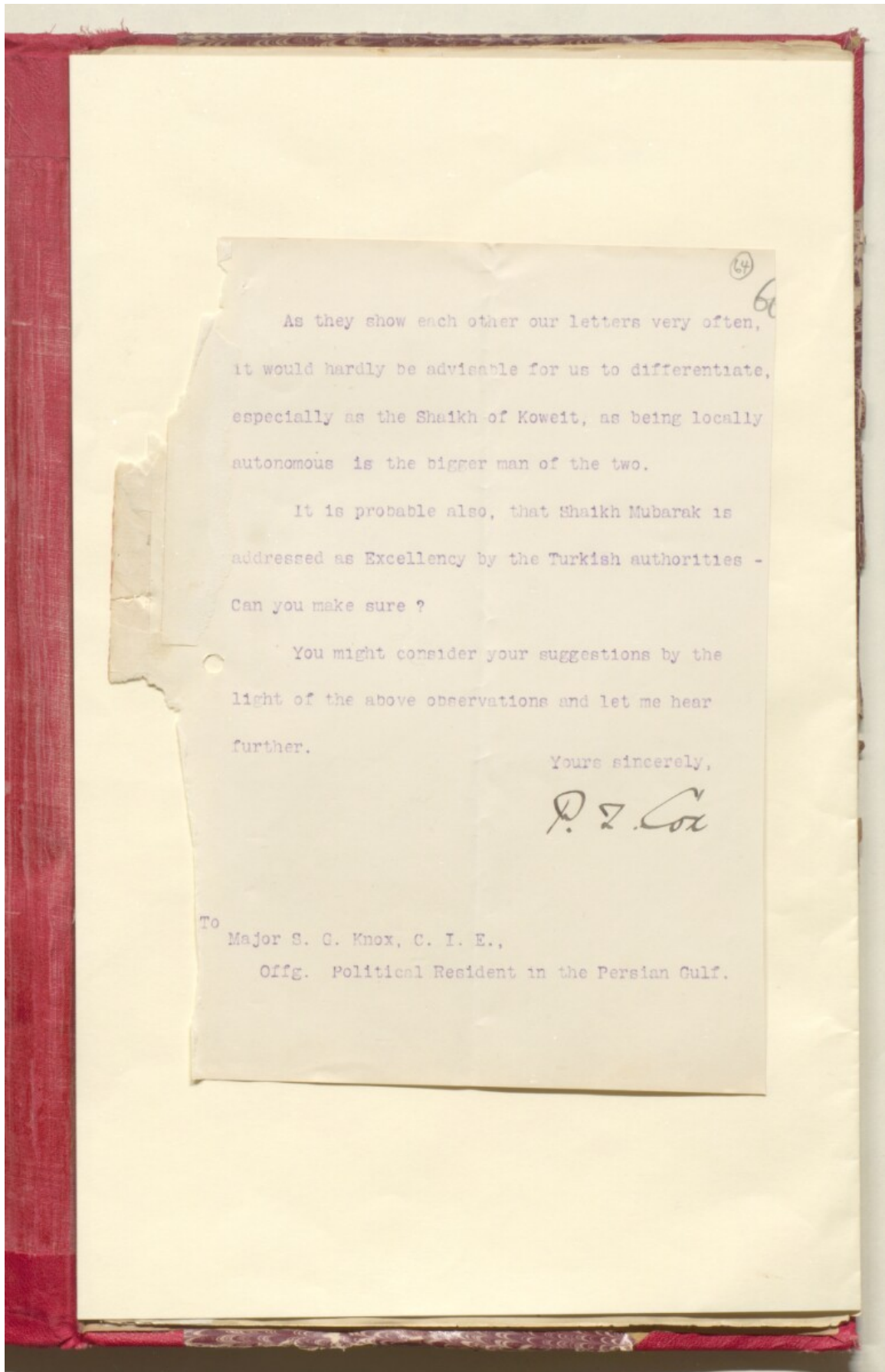
Yours very sincerely

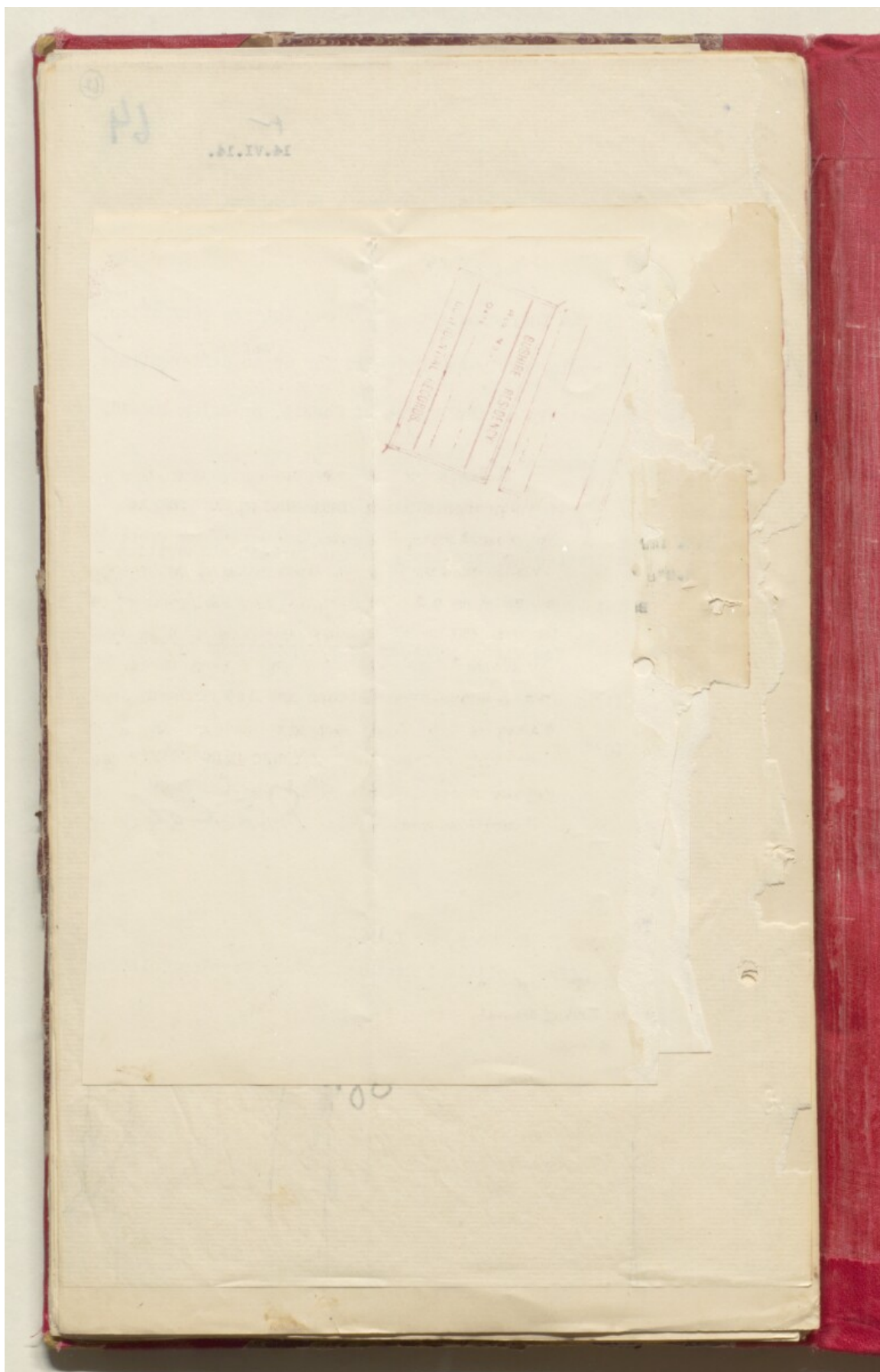
S. M. M.

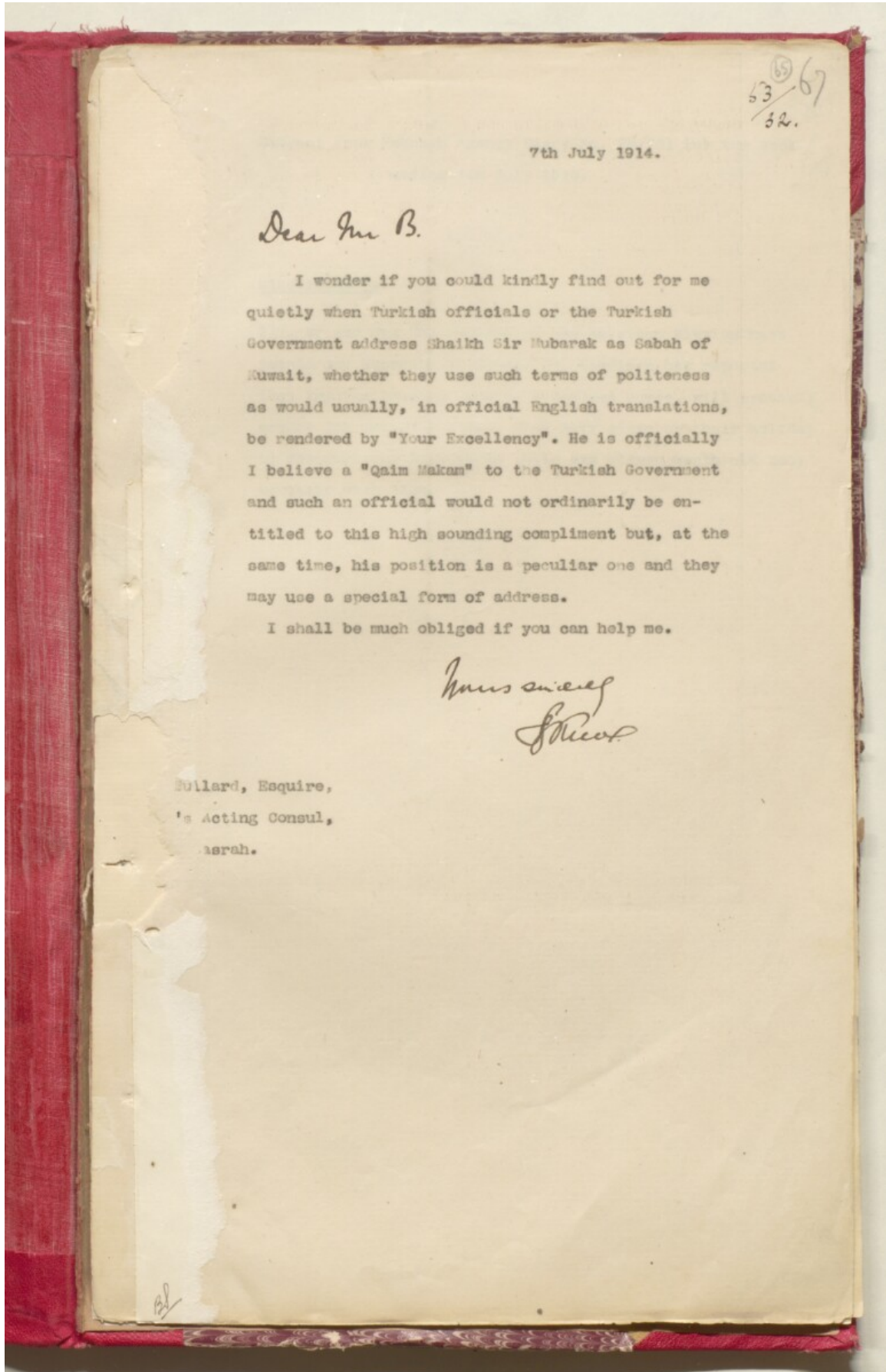


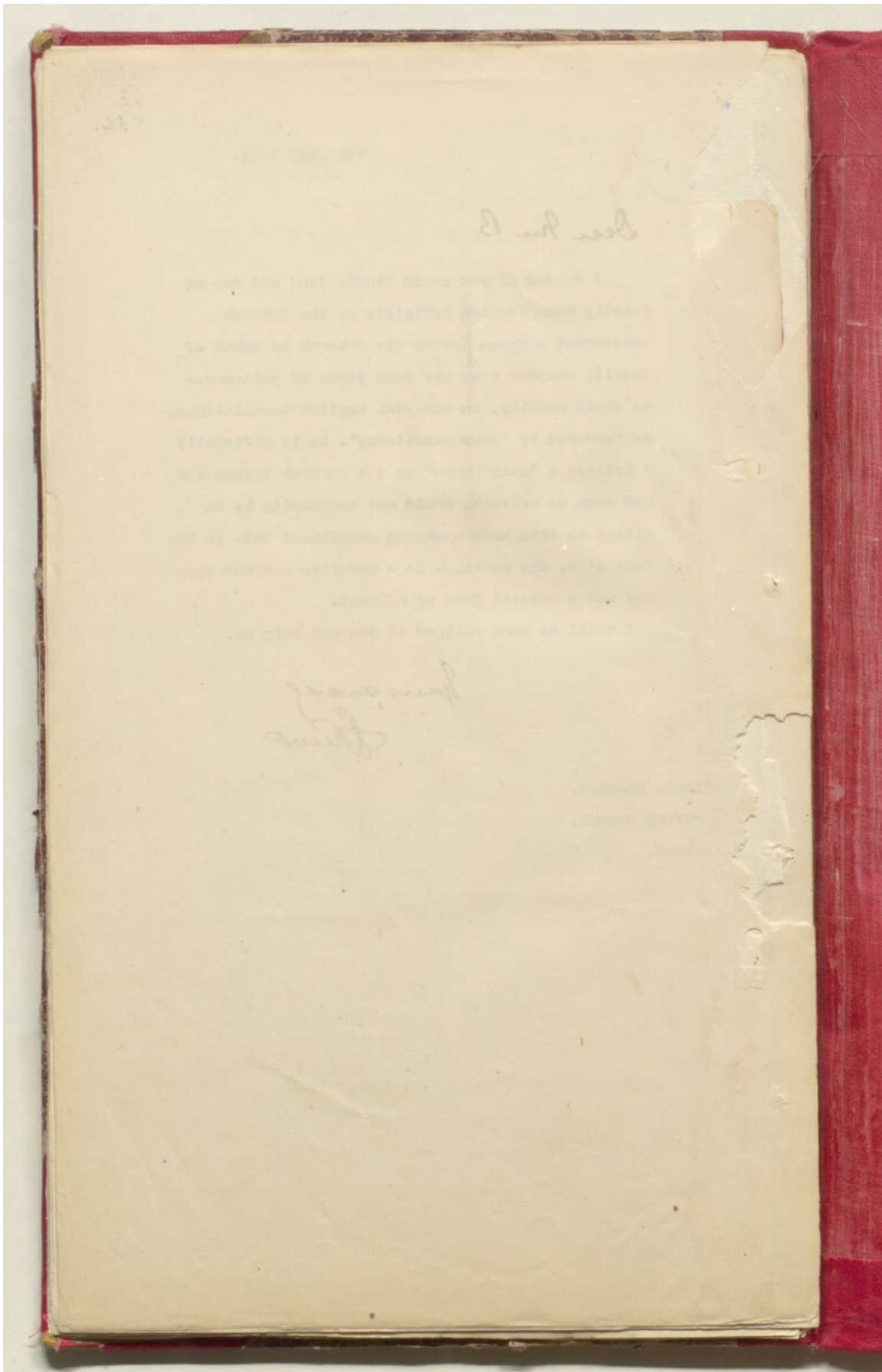


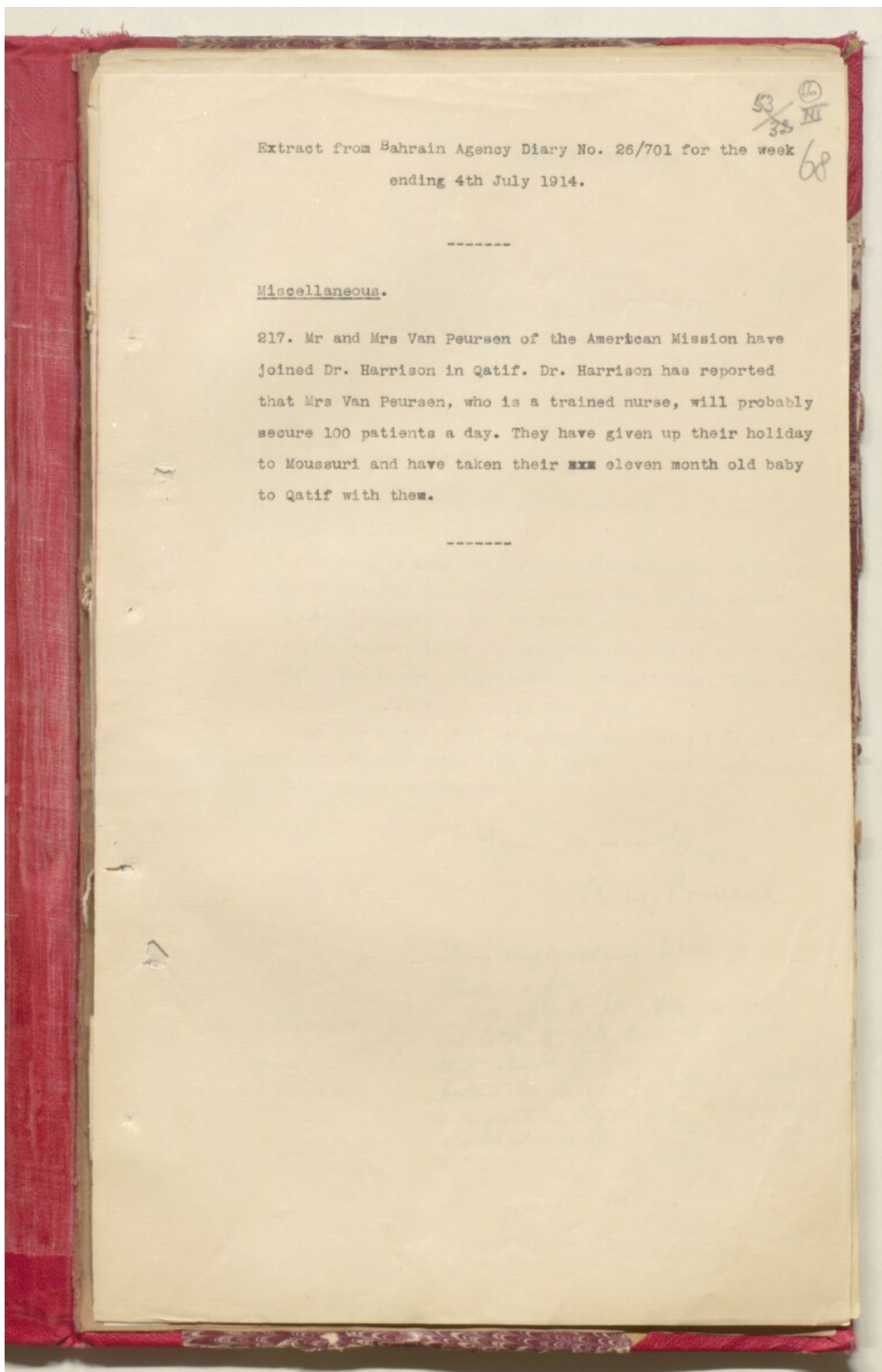








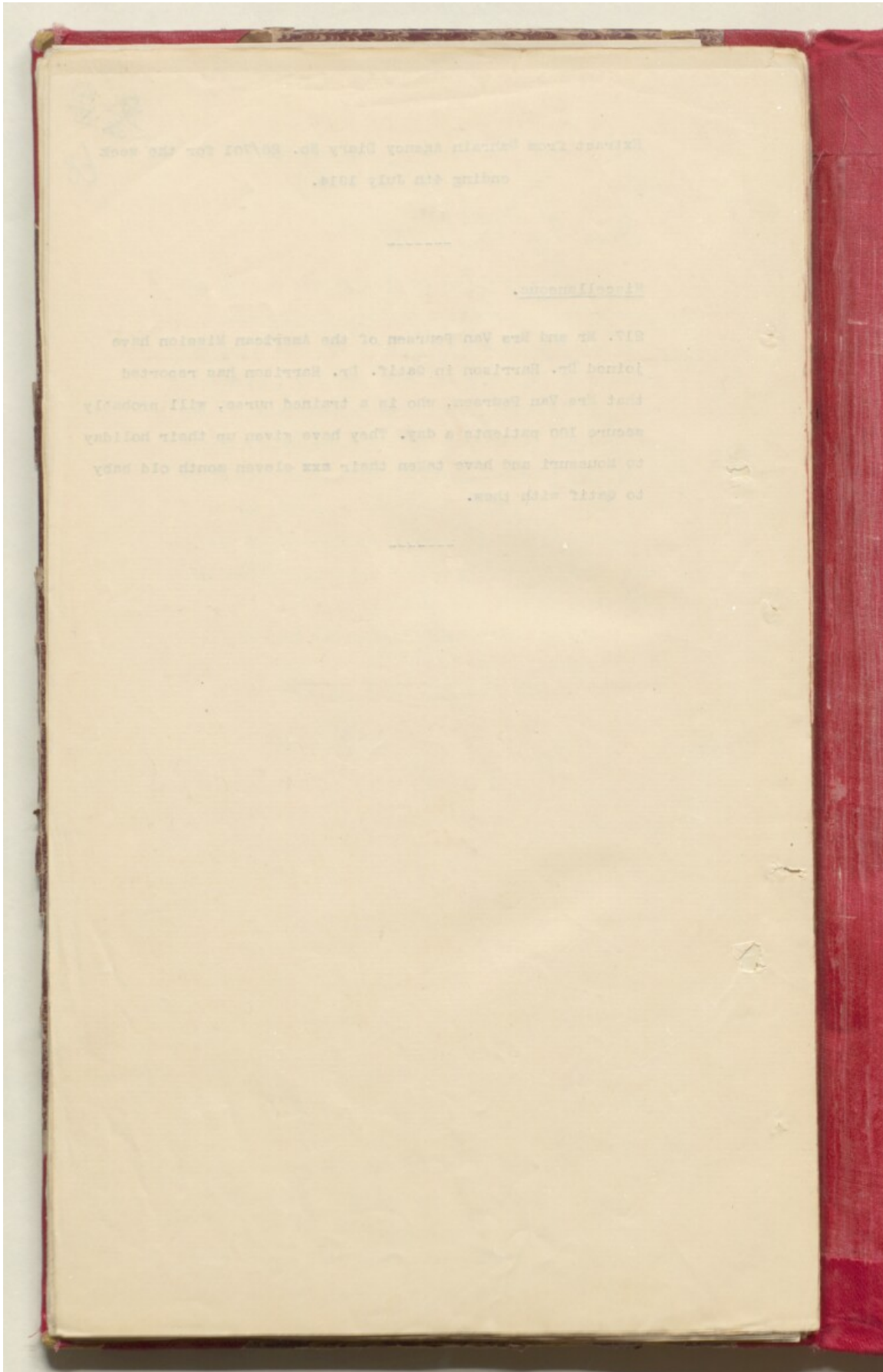


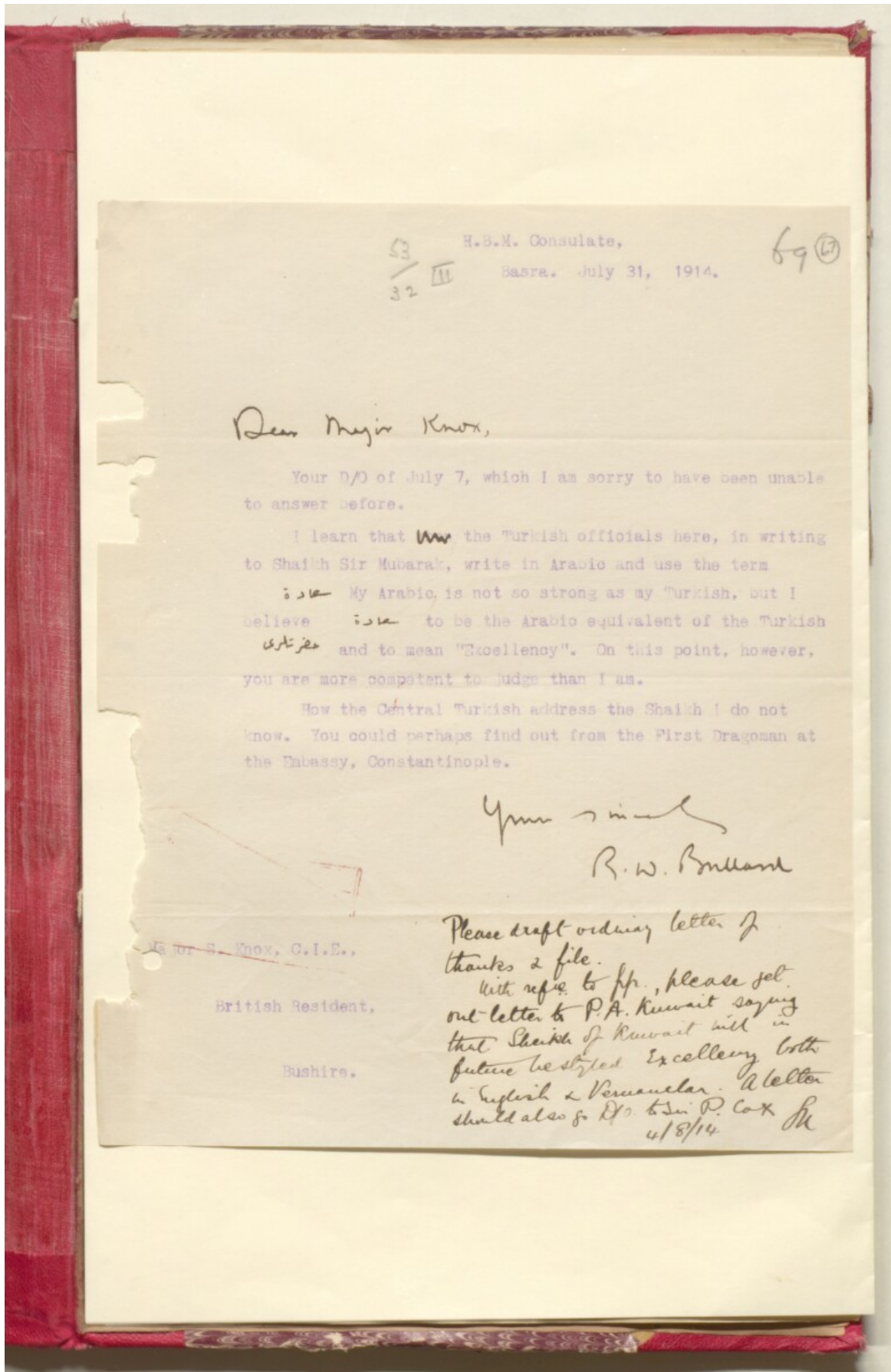


Extract from Bahrain Agency Diary No. 26/701 for the week
ending 4th July 1914.

Miscellaneous.

217. Mr and Mrs Van Peursen of the American Mission have joined Dr. Harrison in Qatif. Dr. Harrison has reported that Mrs Van Peursen, who is a trained nurse, will probably secure 100 patients a day. They have given up their holiday to Moussuri and have taken their ~~xxx~~ eleven month old baby to Qatif with them.





53
32

H.B.M. Consulate,

Basra. July 31, 1914.

69 (67)

Dear Major Knox,

Your D/O of July 7, which I am sorry to have been unable to answer before.

I learn that ~~the~~ the Turkish officials here, in writing to Shaikh Sir Mubarak, write in Arabic and use the term

مفترى My Arabic is not so strong as my Turkish, but I believe مفترى to be the Arabic equivalent of the Turkish and to mean "Excellency". On this point, however, you are more competent to judge than I am.

How the Central Turkish address the Shaikh I do not know. You could perhaps find out from the First Dragoman at the Embassy, Constantinople.

Yours sincerely

R.W. Bullard

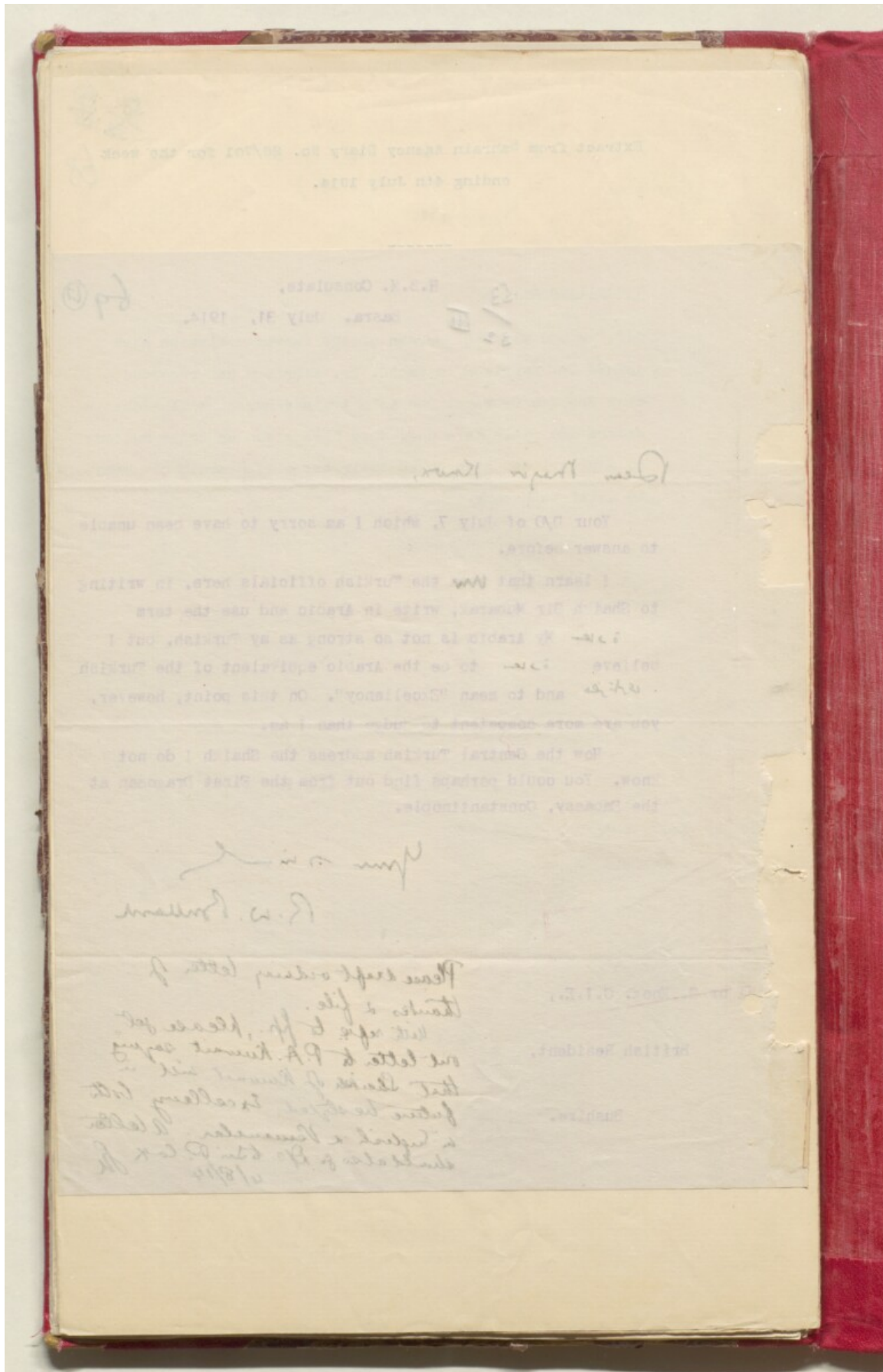
Major S. Knox, C.I.E.,

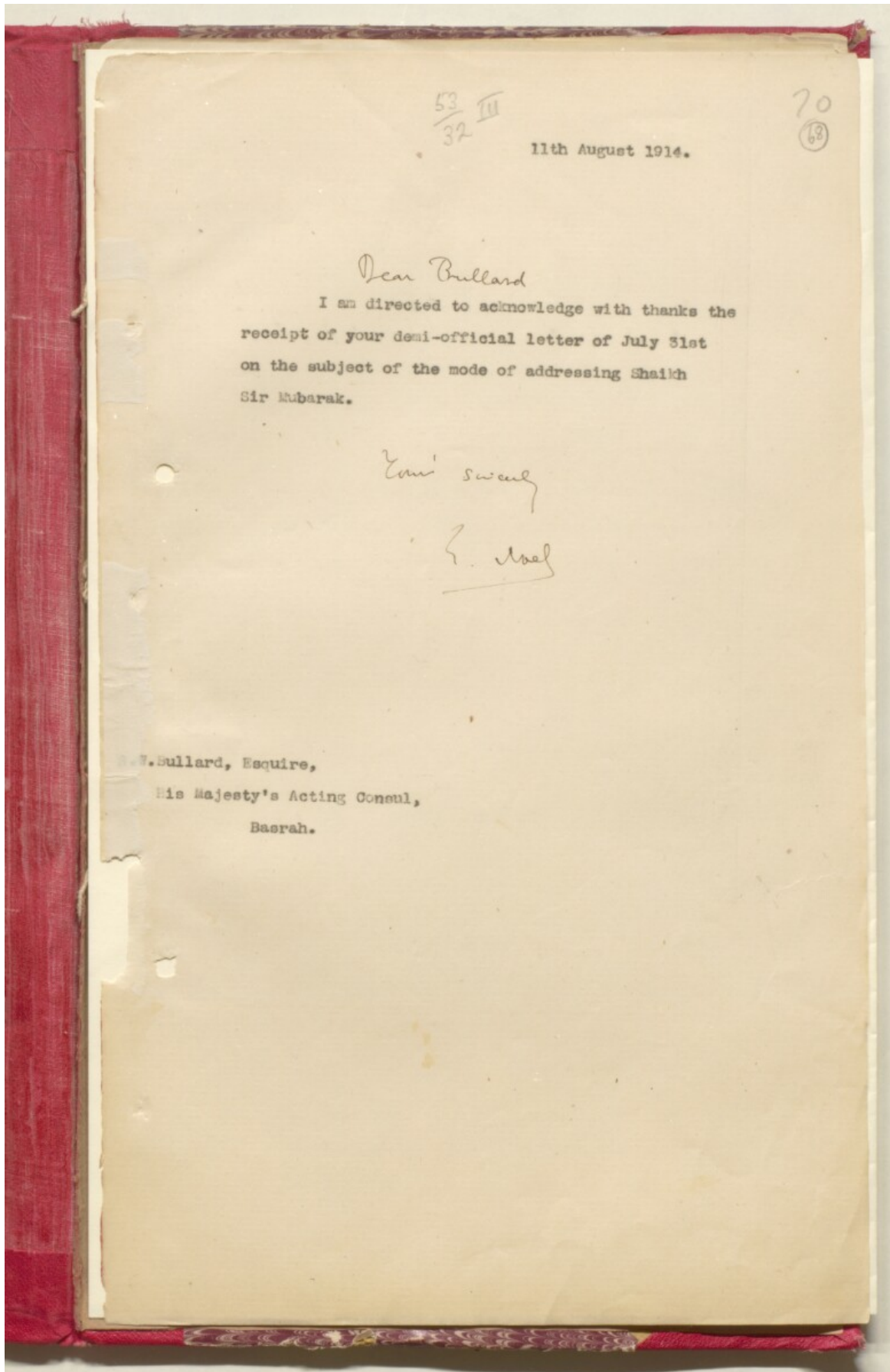
British Resident,

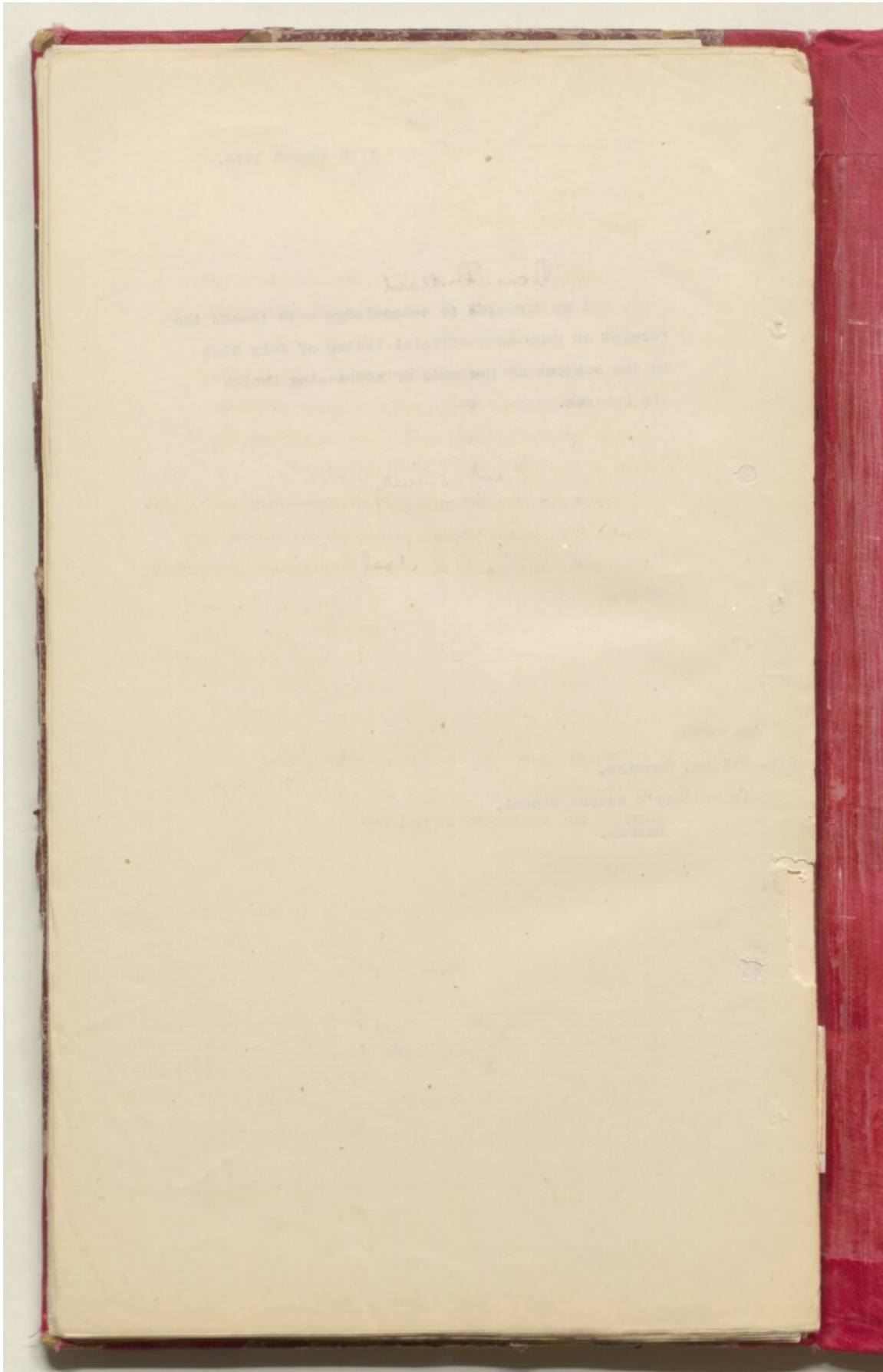
Bushire.

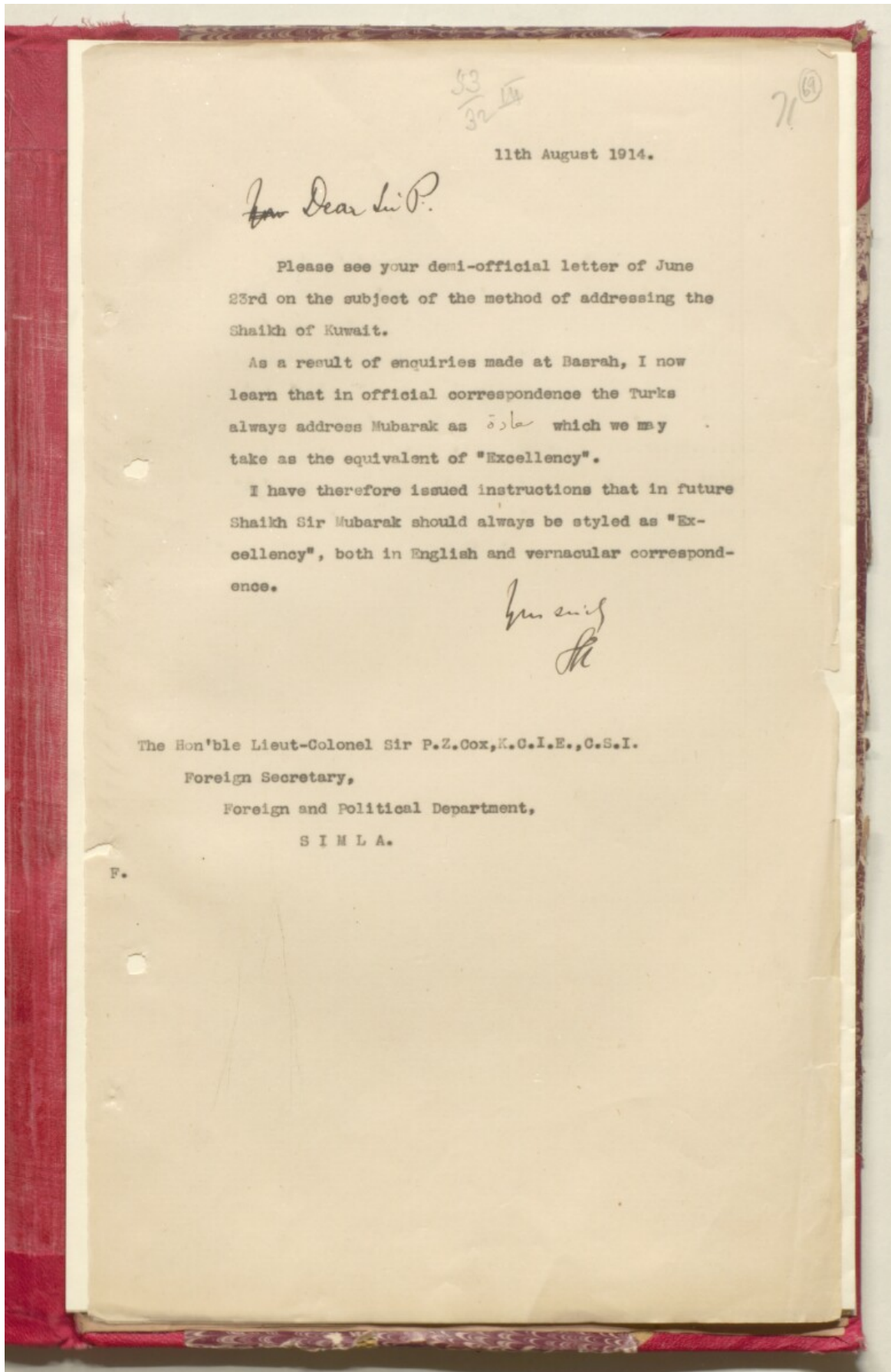
Please draft ordinary letter of thanks & file.

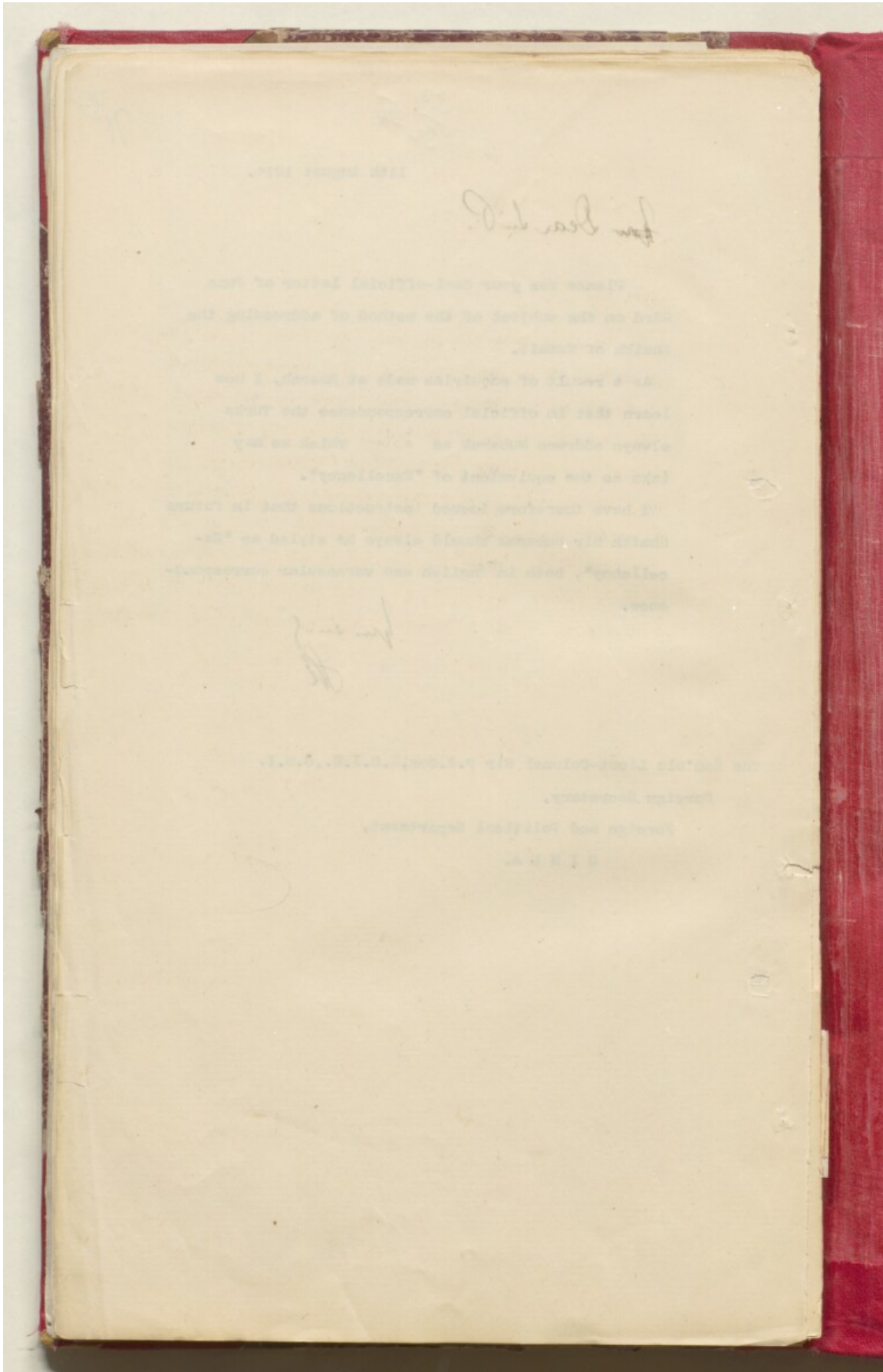
With ref. to pp., please set out letter to P.A. Kuwait saying that Shaikh of Kuwait will in future be styled Excellency both in English & Persian. A letter should also go to Sir P. Cox 4/8/14 RH

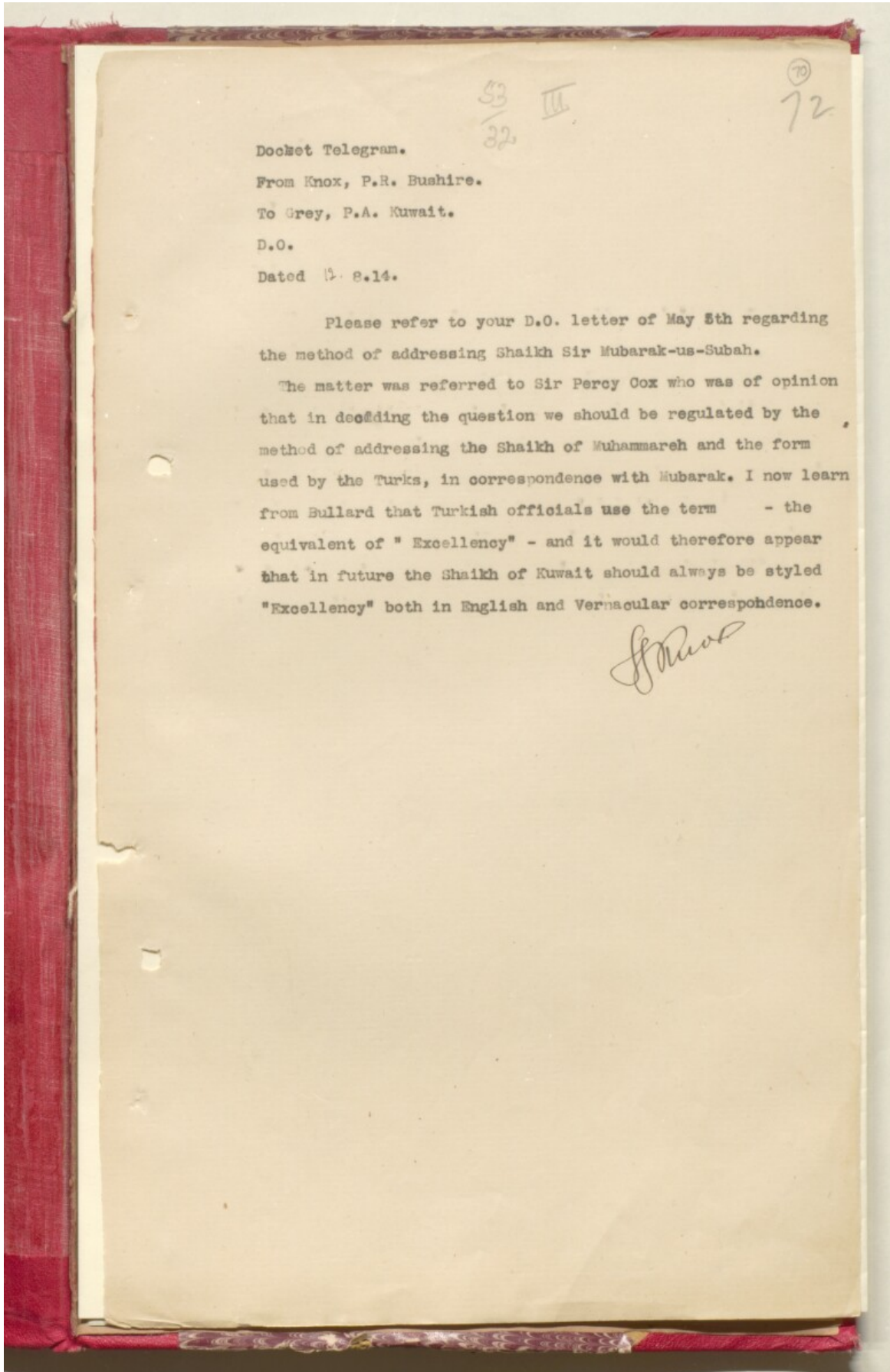












Docket Telegram.

From Knox, P.R. Bushire.

To Grey, P.A. Kuwait.

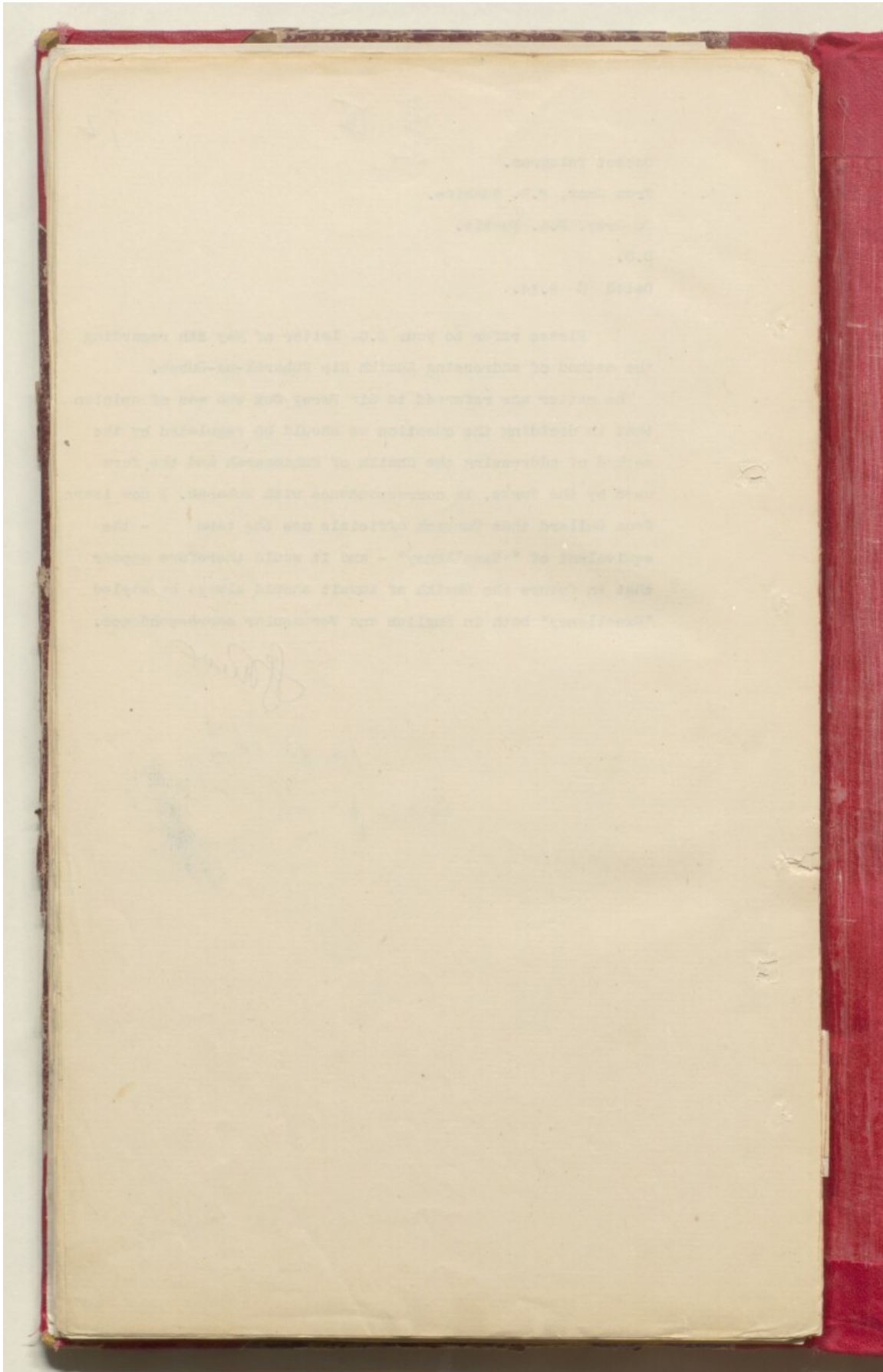
D.O.

Dated 12.8.14.

Please refer to your D.O. letter of May 5th regarding the method of addressing Shaikh Sir Mubarak-us-Subah.

The matter was referred to Sir Percy Cox who was of opinion that in deciding the question we should be regulated by the method of addressing the Shaikh of Muhammareh and the form used by the Turks, in correspondence with Mubarak. I now learn from Bullard that Turkish officials use the term - the equivalent of "Excellency" - and it would therefore appear that in future the Shaikh of Kuwait should always be styled "Excellency" both in English and Vernacular correspondence.

J. Bullard





Confidential.
Docket Telegram.
From Grey, P.A., Kuwait.
To Knox, P.R., Bushire.
Demi-official.
Dated 29th October 1914.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 945.
DATE 3.10.14.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

73

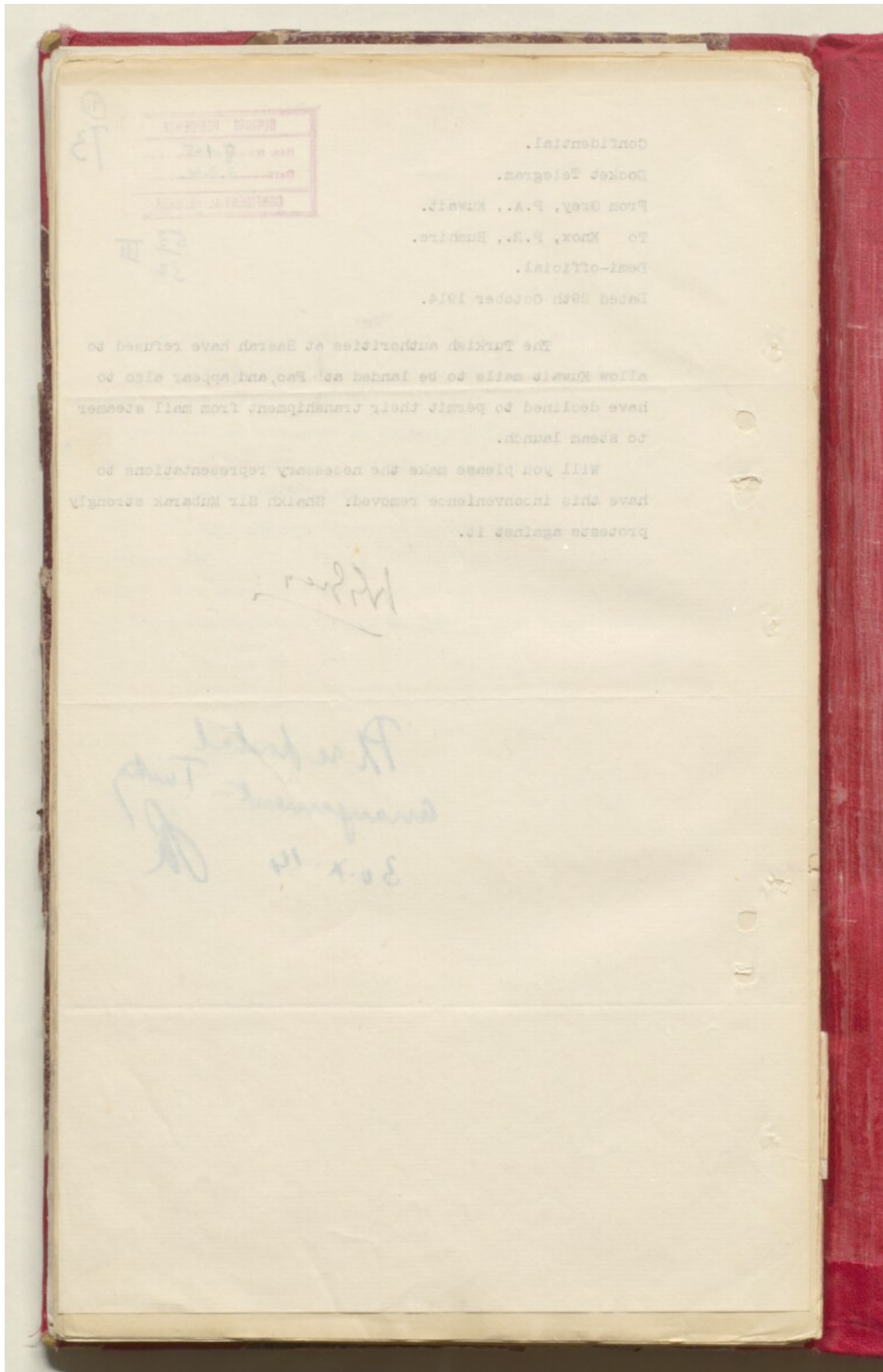
53
32

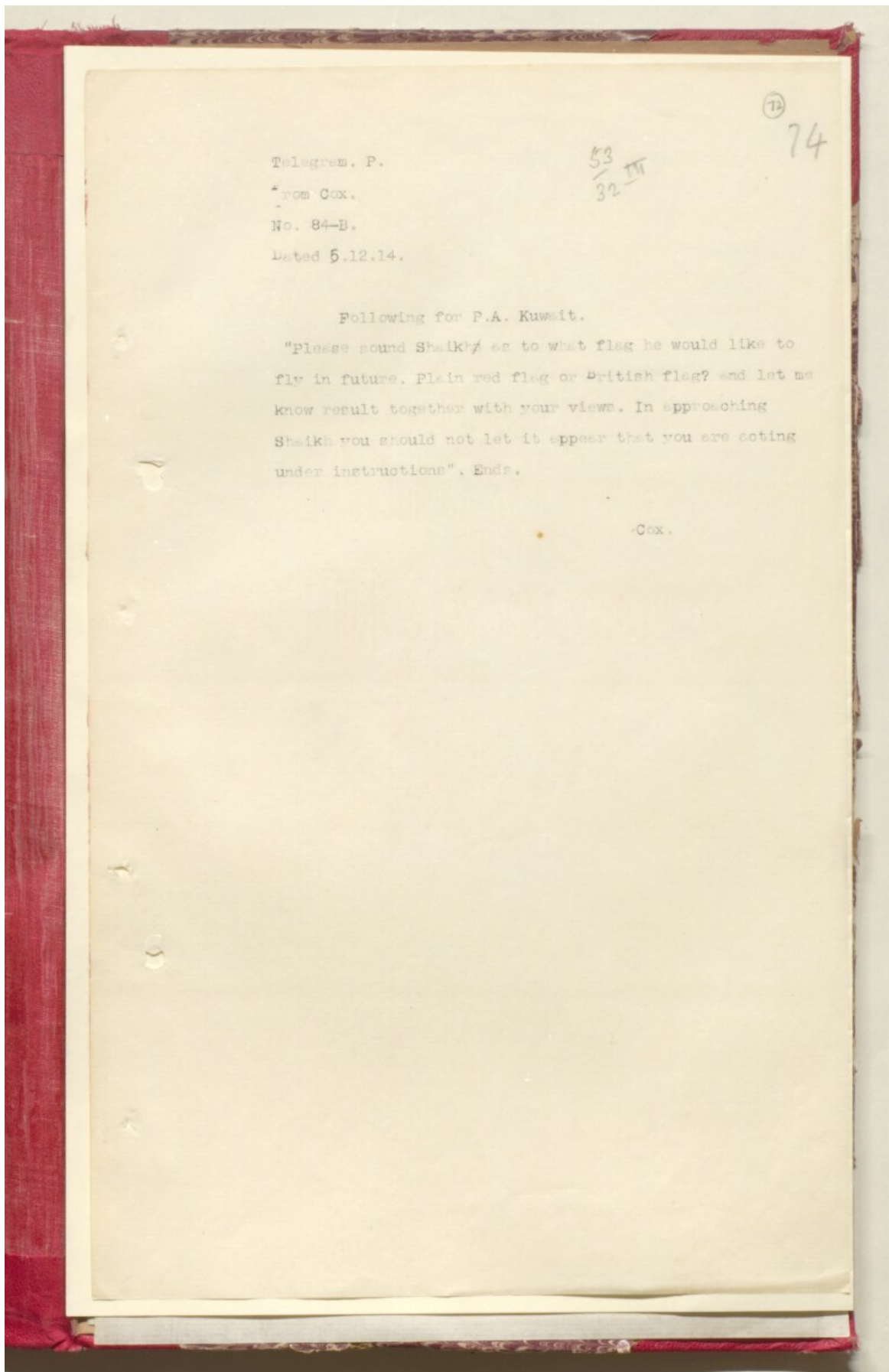
The Turkish authorities at Basrah have refused to allow Kuwait mails to be landed at Fao, and appear also to have declined to permit their transshipment from mail steamer to steam launch.

Will you please make the necessary representations to have this inconvenience removed: Shaikh Sir Mubarak strongly protests against it.

W. Grey

*Ph re postal
arrangement Turkey
30.10.14*





Telegram. P.

From Cox.

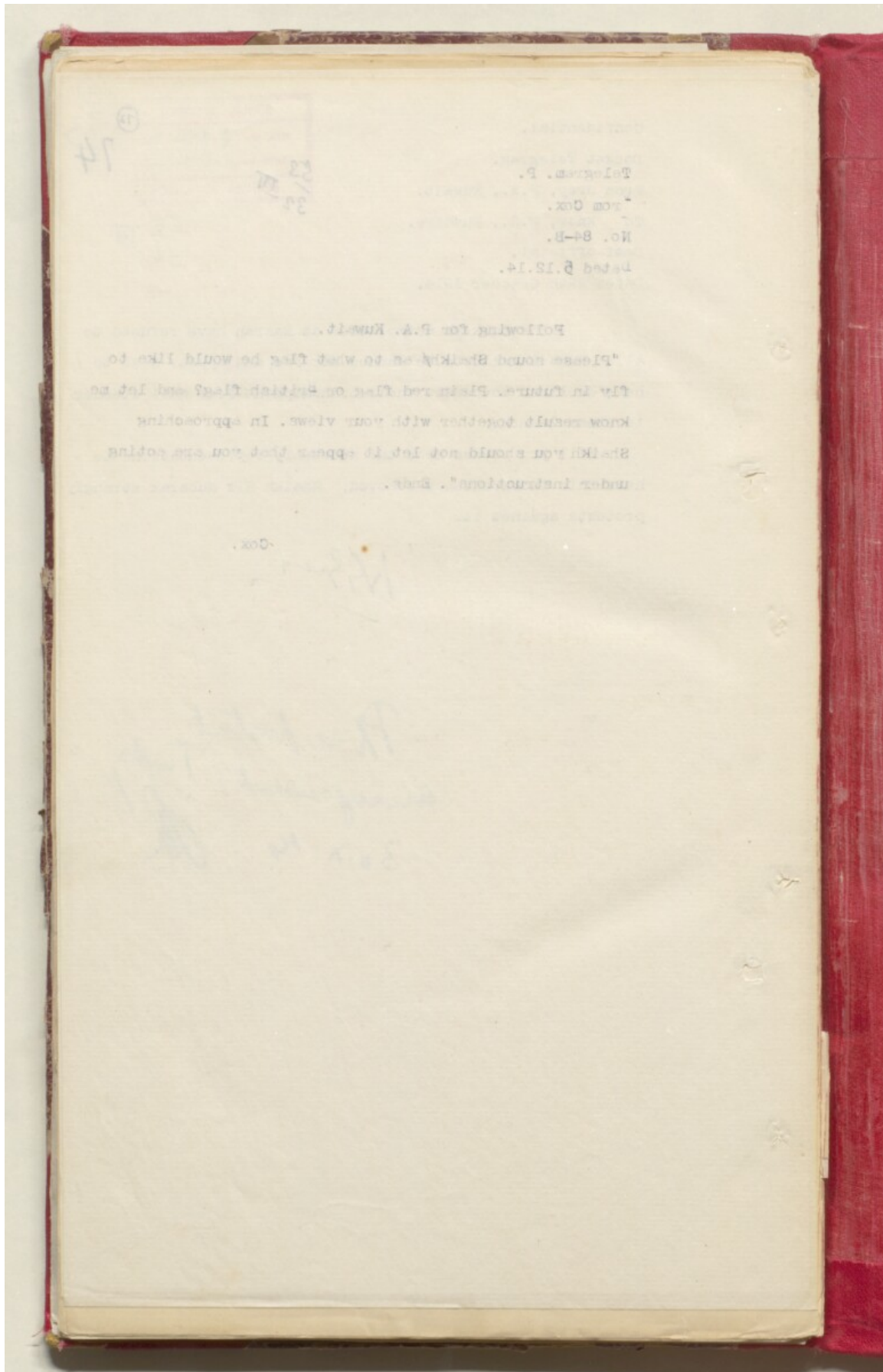
No. 84-B.

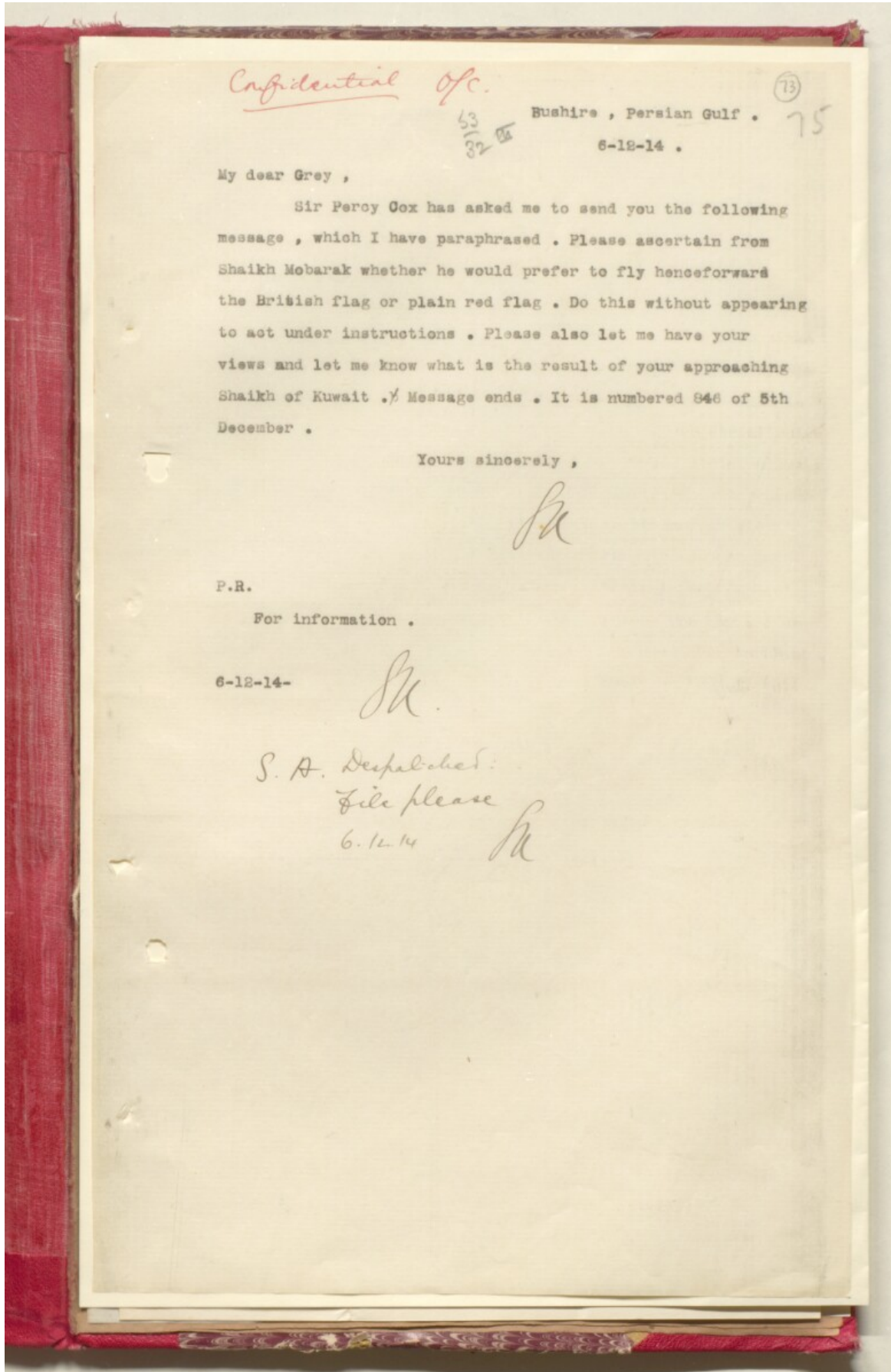
Dated 5.12.14.

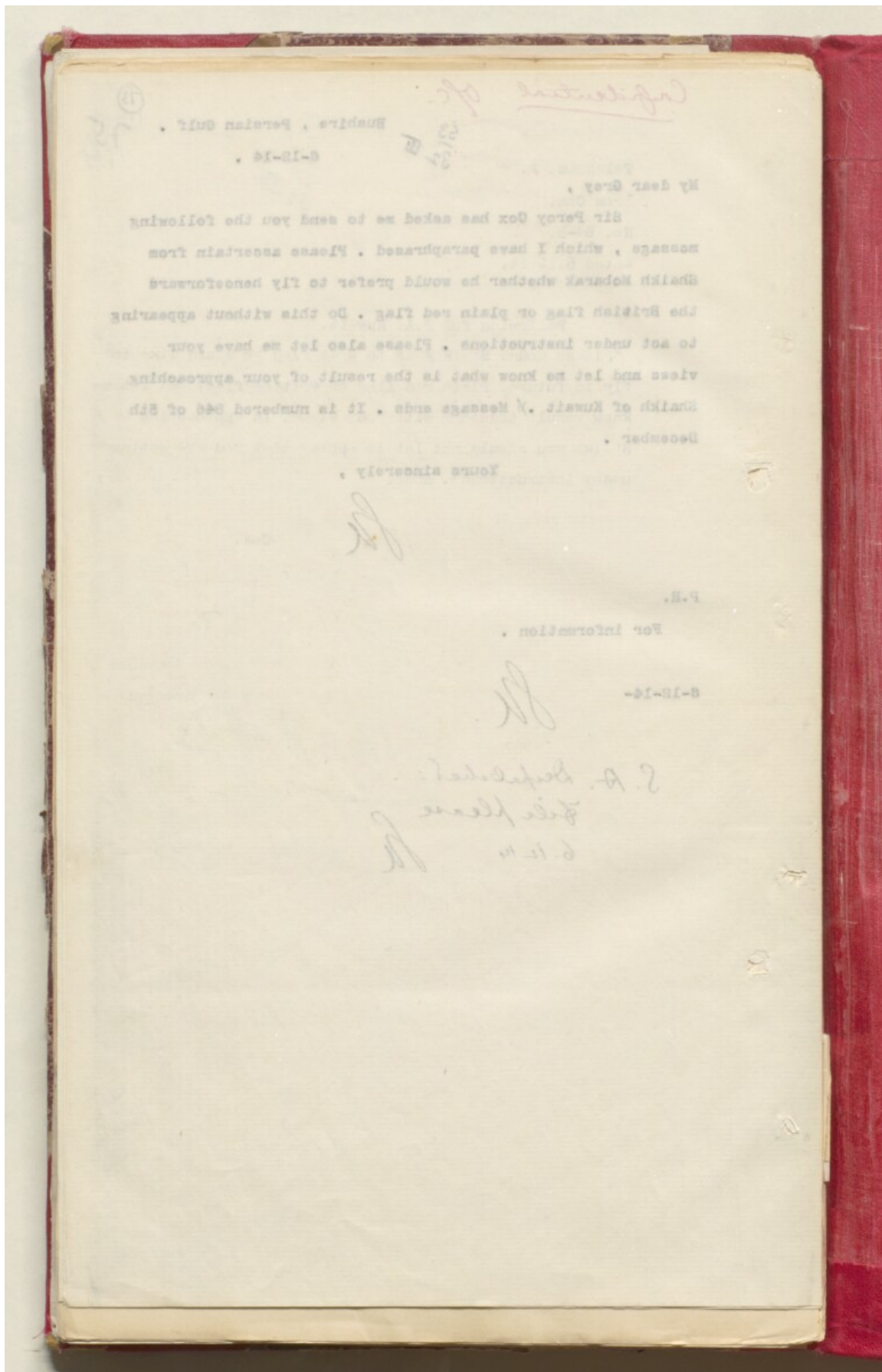
Following for P.A. Kuwait.

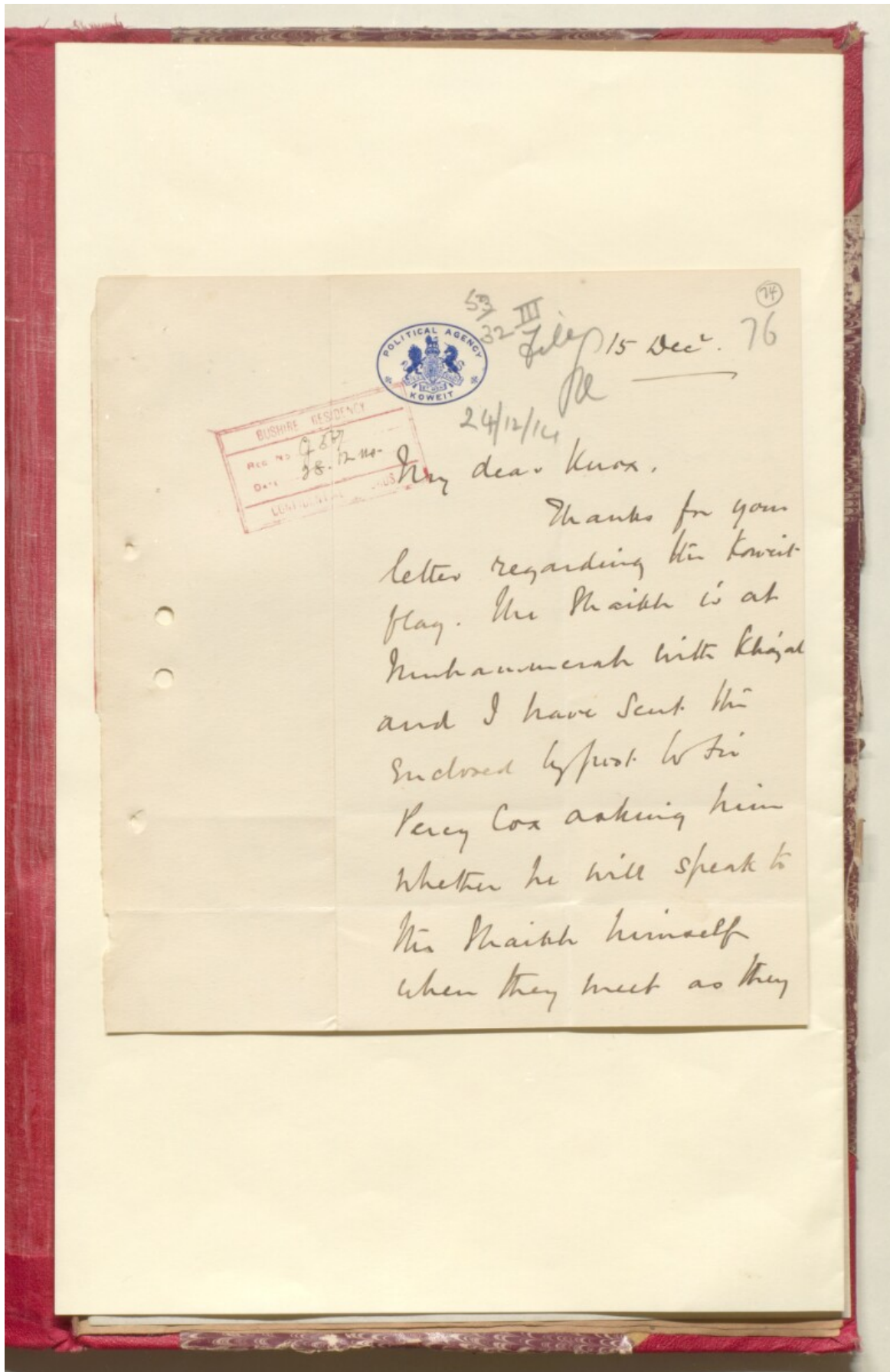
"Please sound Shaikh as to what flag he would like to fly in future. Plain red flag or British flag? and let me know result together with your views. In approaching Shaikh you should not let it appear that you are acting under instructions". Ends.

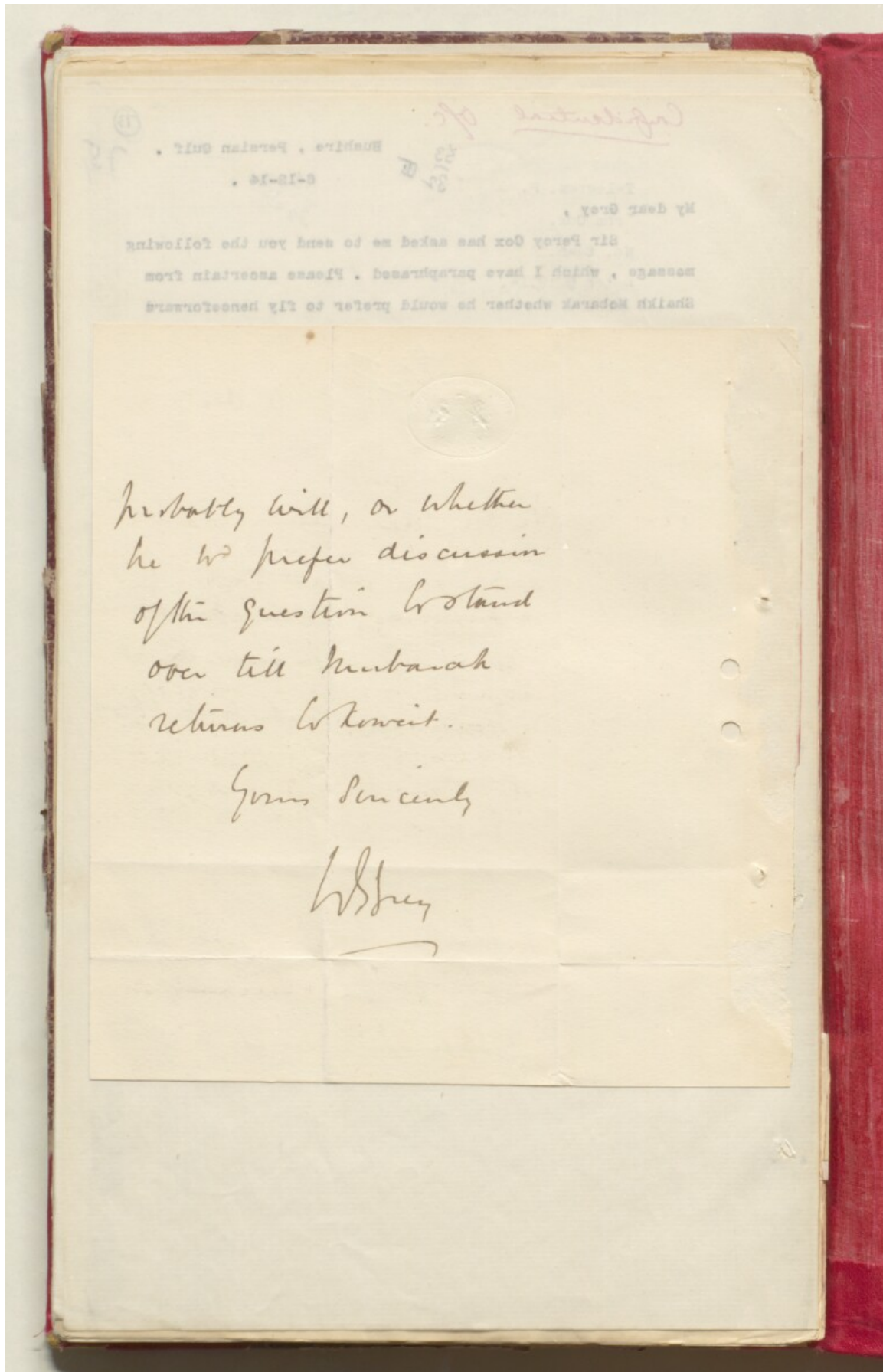
-Cox.

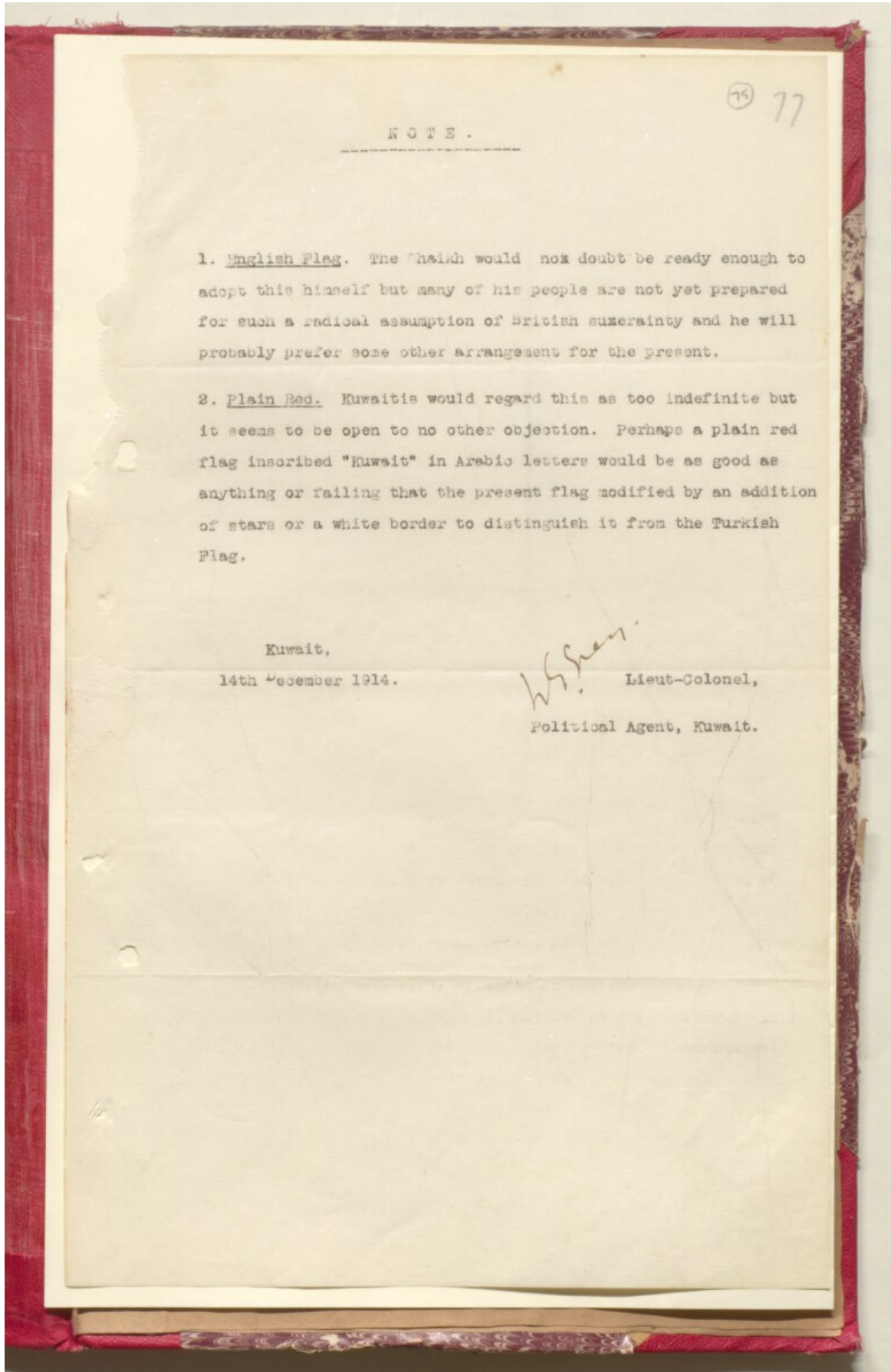












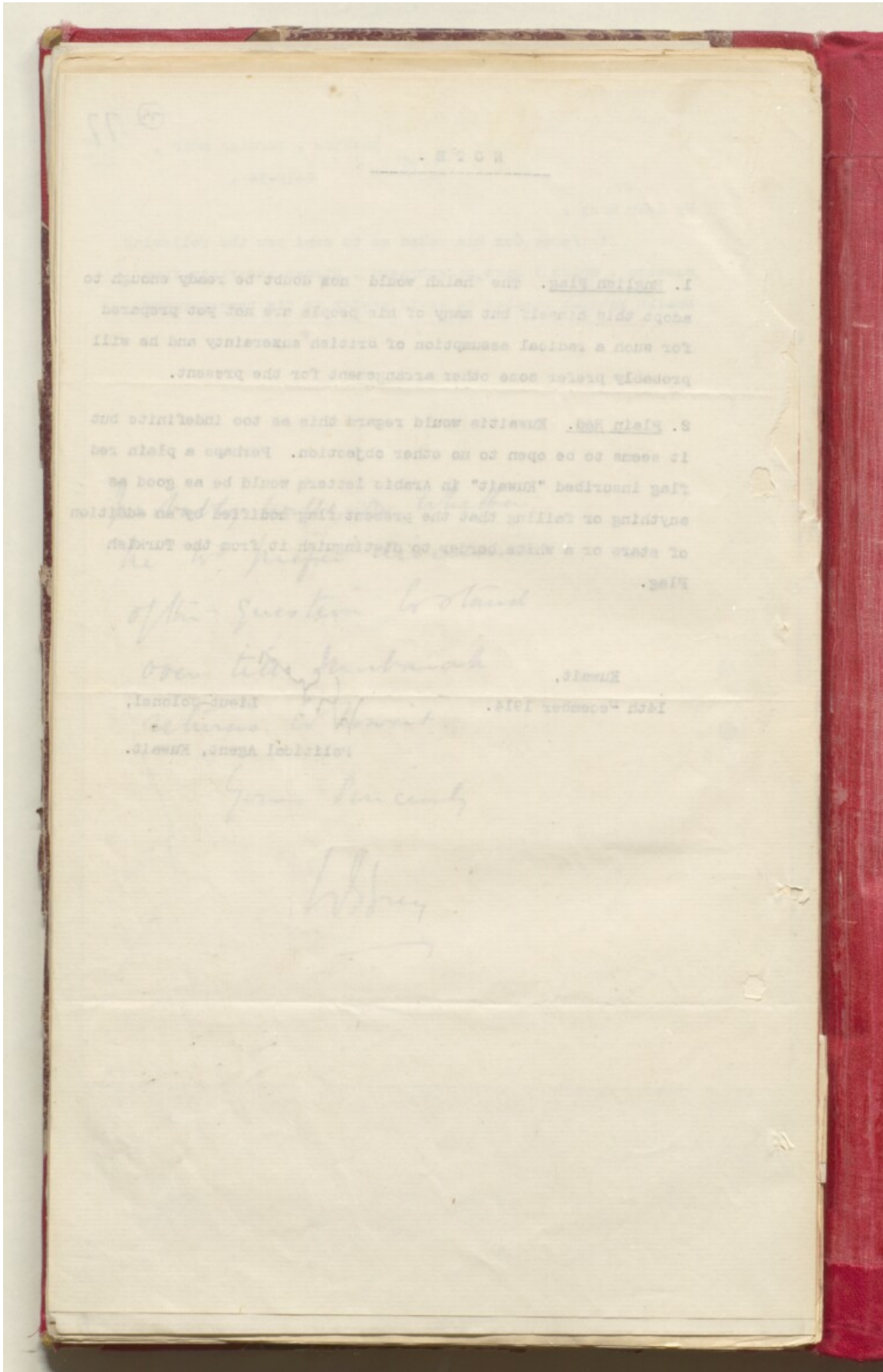
NOTE.

1. English Flag. The Sheikh would not doubt be ready enough to adopt this himself but many of his people are not yet prepared for such a radical assumption of British suzerainty and he will probably prefer some other arrangement for the present.

2. Plain Red. Kuwaitis would regard this as too indefinite but it seems to be open to no other objection. Perhaps a plain red flag inscribed "Kuwait" in Arabic letters would be as good as anything or failing that the present flag modified by an addition of stars or a white border to distinguish it from the Turkish Flag.

Kuwait,
14th December 1914.

W. S. ...
Lieut-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





15

CONFIDENTIAL

No. C574 of 1914.

Political Agency, No. 9-579
Kuwait, 30.12.14.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
30.12.14

From
Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 18th December 1914.

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your telegram No. 846 dated 5th December on the subject of the proposed change in the Kuwait flag.

2. In the course of conversations during the past year the Shaikh has occasionally referred to the question of his flying a distinctive flag, and on the evening preceding his departure for Muhammerah, that of the 10th instant, remarked that an early change would be desirable, in which I concurred but did not gather that he was thinking of carrying it out forthwith.

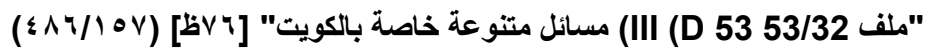
3. Yesterday instructions arrived from Muhammerah for the new flag to be hoisted on the Palace flagstaff and the change was duly effected; the pattern chosen is that suggested in my note of the 14th instant, viz a plain red back ground with "Kuwait" inscribed thereon in Arabic characters.

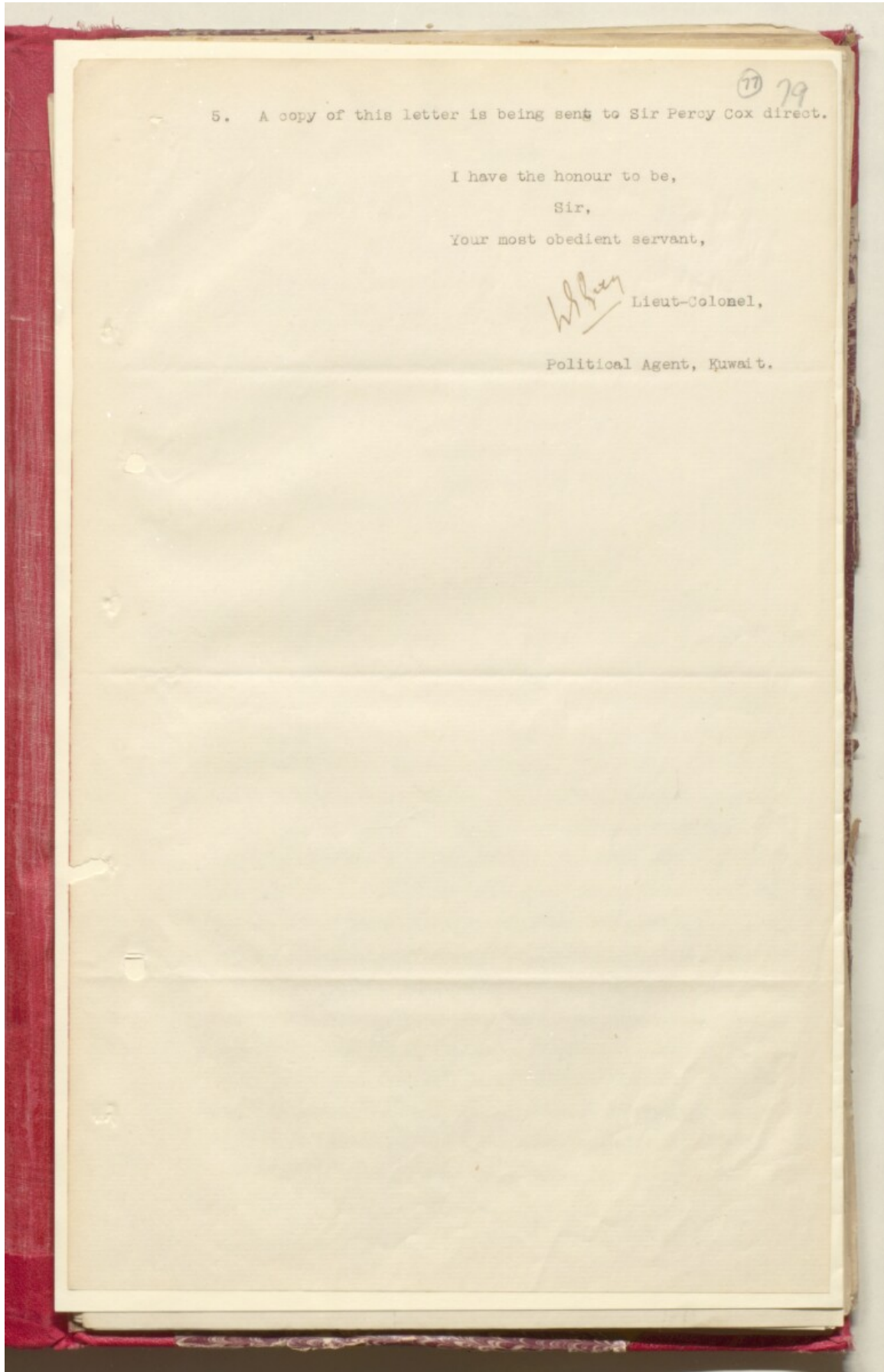
4. I trust that this will meet with your approval and with that of the Government of India: in my opinion the flag as introduced is entirely suitable, as the majority of the population would certainly be shy of adopting the Union Jack and this seems to be the best alternative.

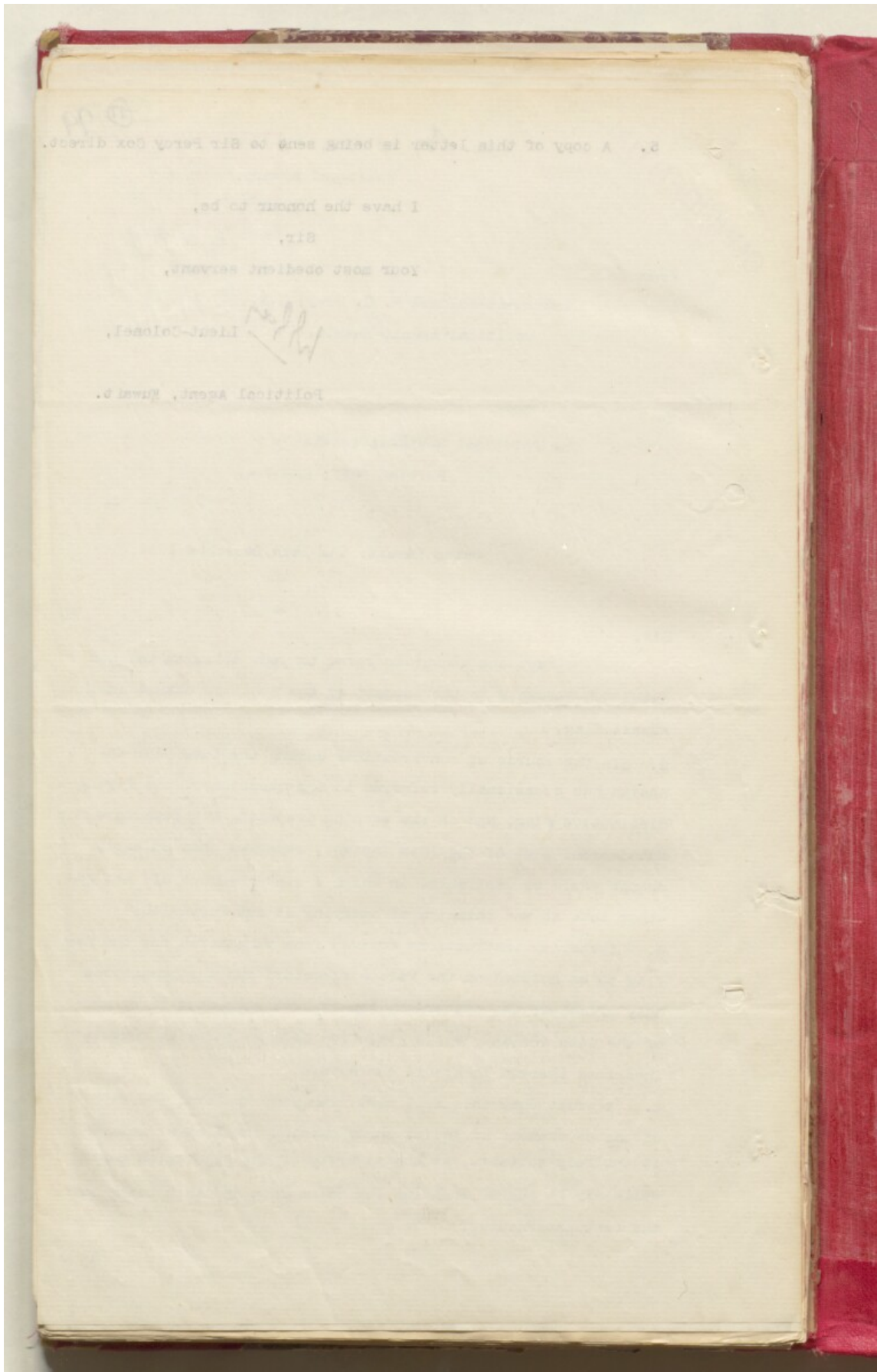
A

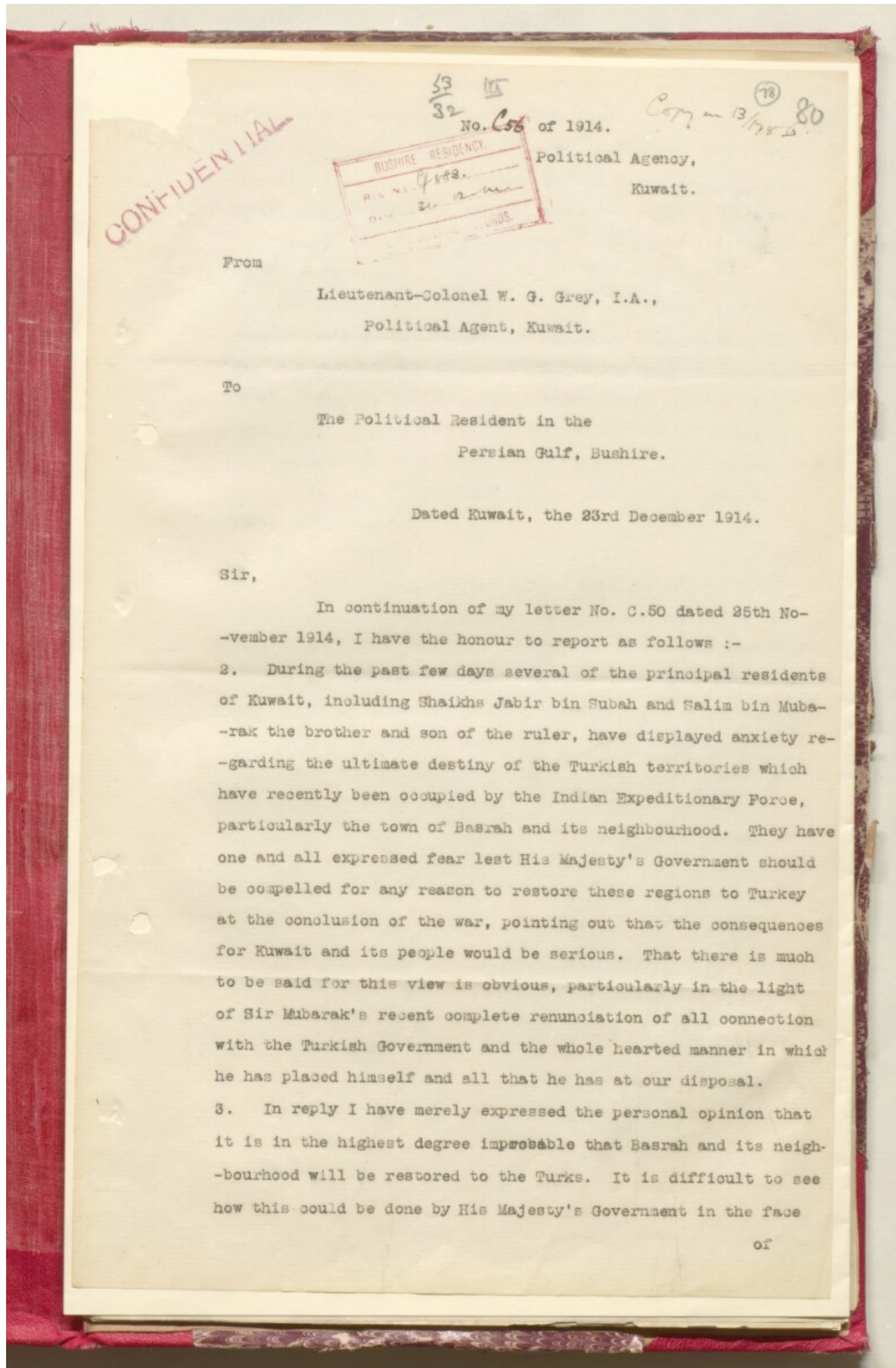
78

74

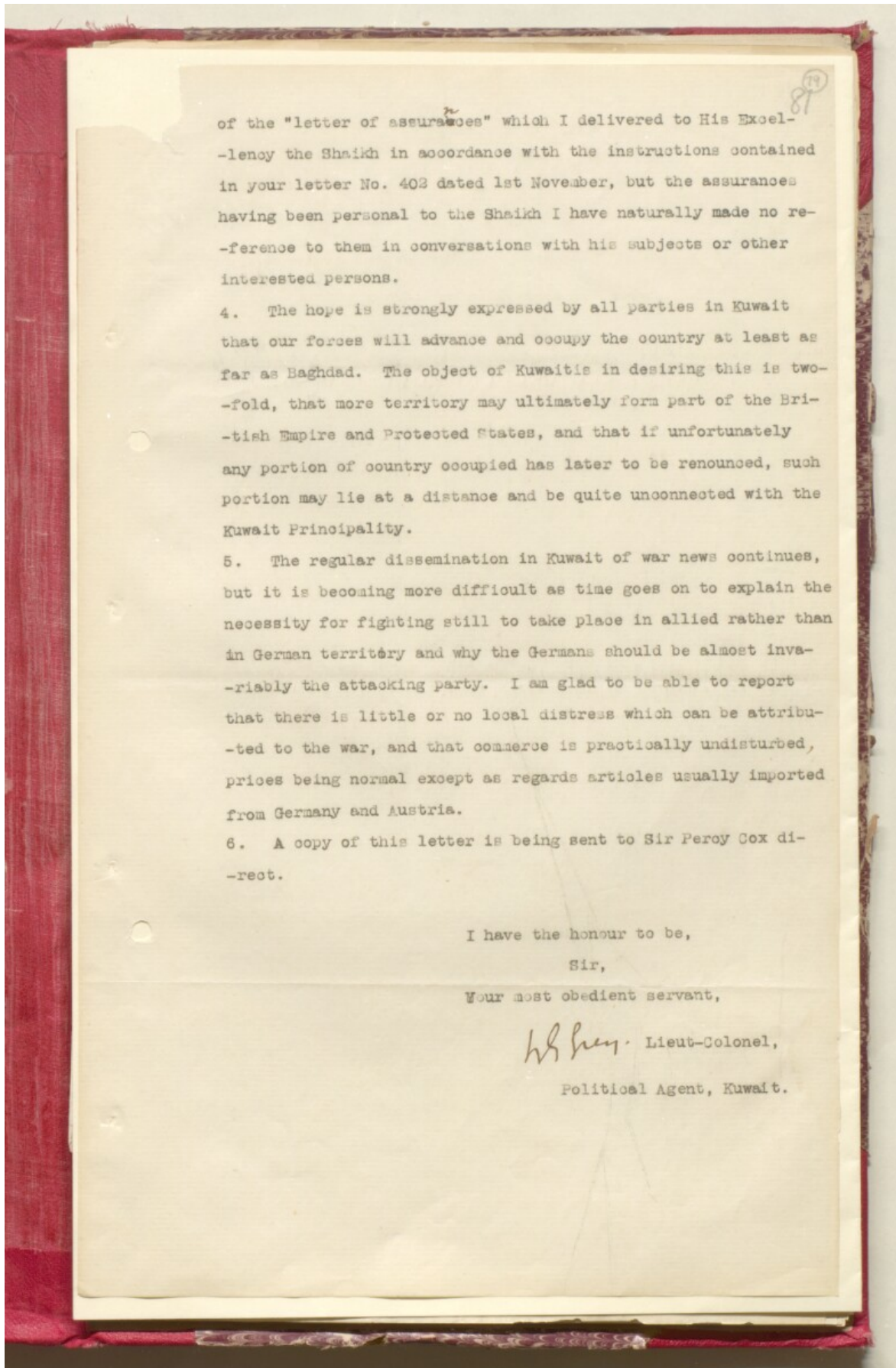












of the "letter of assurances" which I delivered to His Excellency the Shaikh in accordance with the instructions contained in your letter No. 402 dated 1st November, but the assurances having been personal to the Shaikh I have naturally made no reference to them in conversations with his subjects or other interested persons.

4. The hope is strongly expressed by all parties in Kuwait that our forces will advance and occupy the country at least as far as Baghdad. The object of Kuwaitis in desiring this is twofold, that more territory may ultimately form part of the British Empire and Protected States, and that if unfortunately any portion of country occupied has later to be renounced, such portion may lie at a distance and be quite unconnected with the Kuwait Principality.

5. The regular dissemination in Kuwait of war news continues, but it is becoming more difficult as time goes on to explain the necessity for fighting still to take place in allied rather than in German territory and why the Germans should be almost invariably the attacking party. I am glad to be able to report that there is little or no local distress which can be attributed to the war, and that commerce is practically undisturbed, prices being normal except as regards articles usually imported from Germany and Austria.

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to Sir Percy Cox direct.

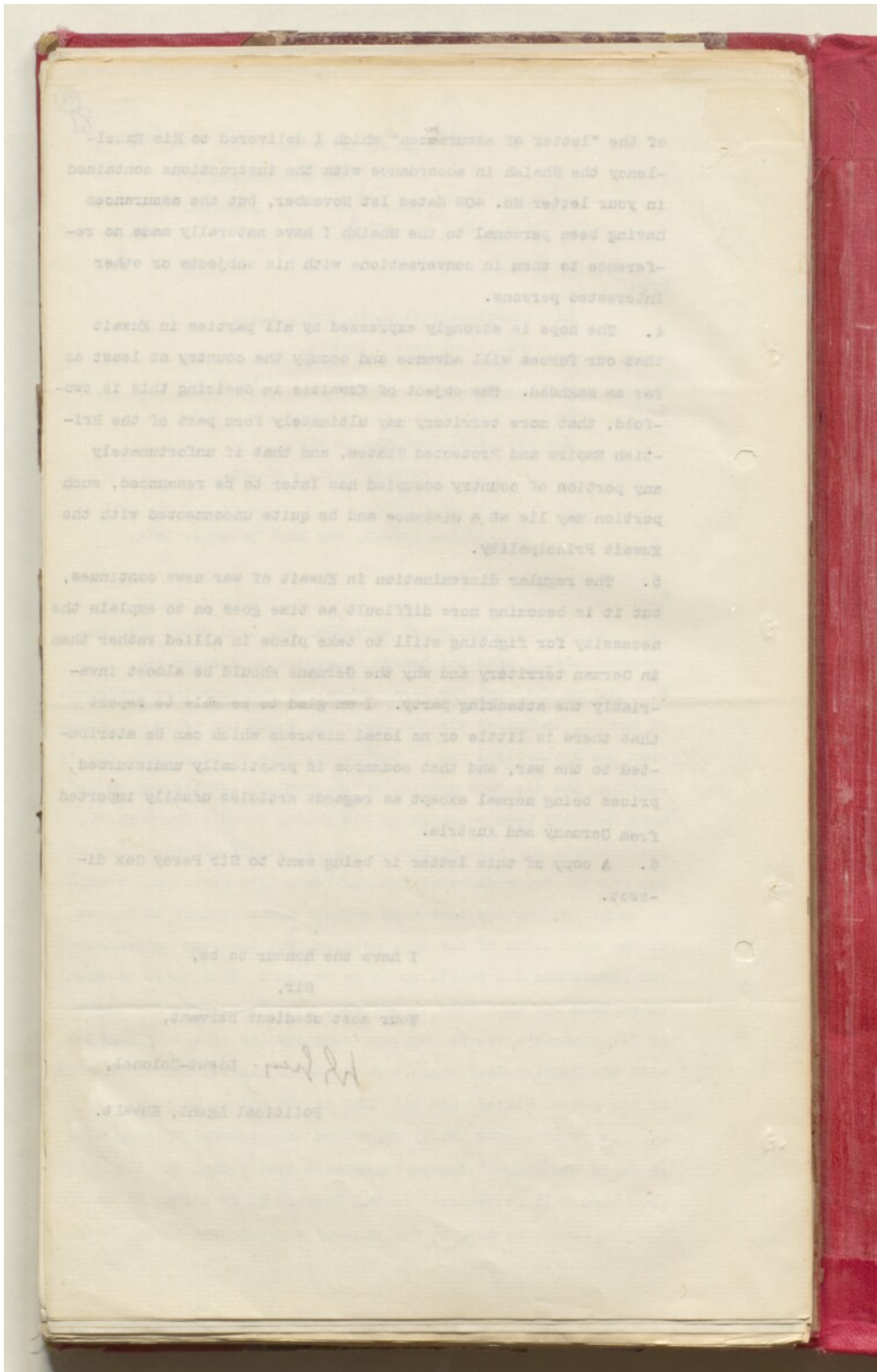
I have the honour to be,

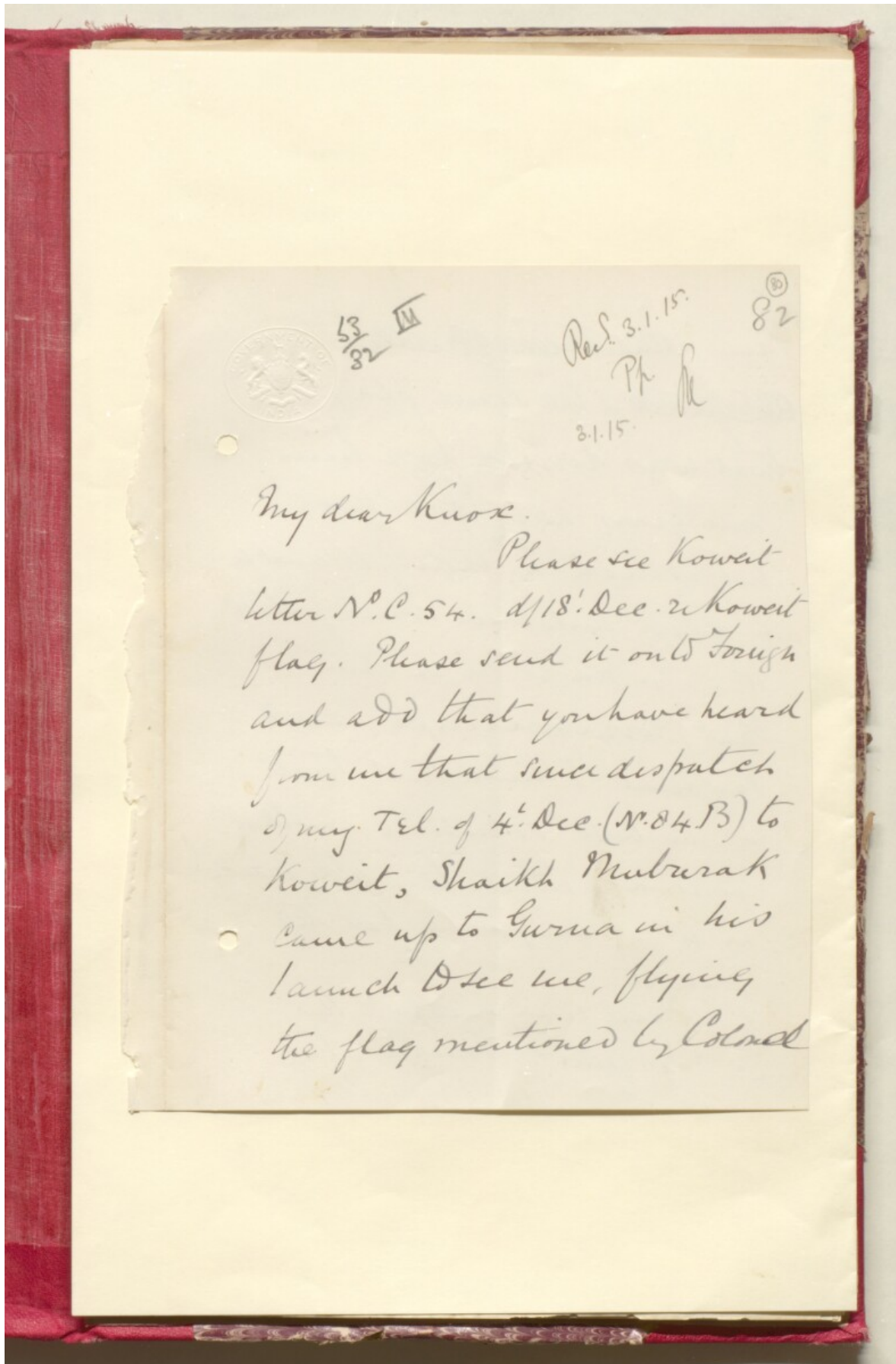
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. H. H. Lieut-Colonel,

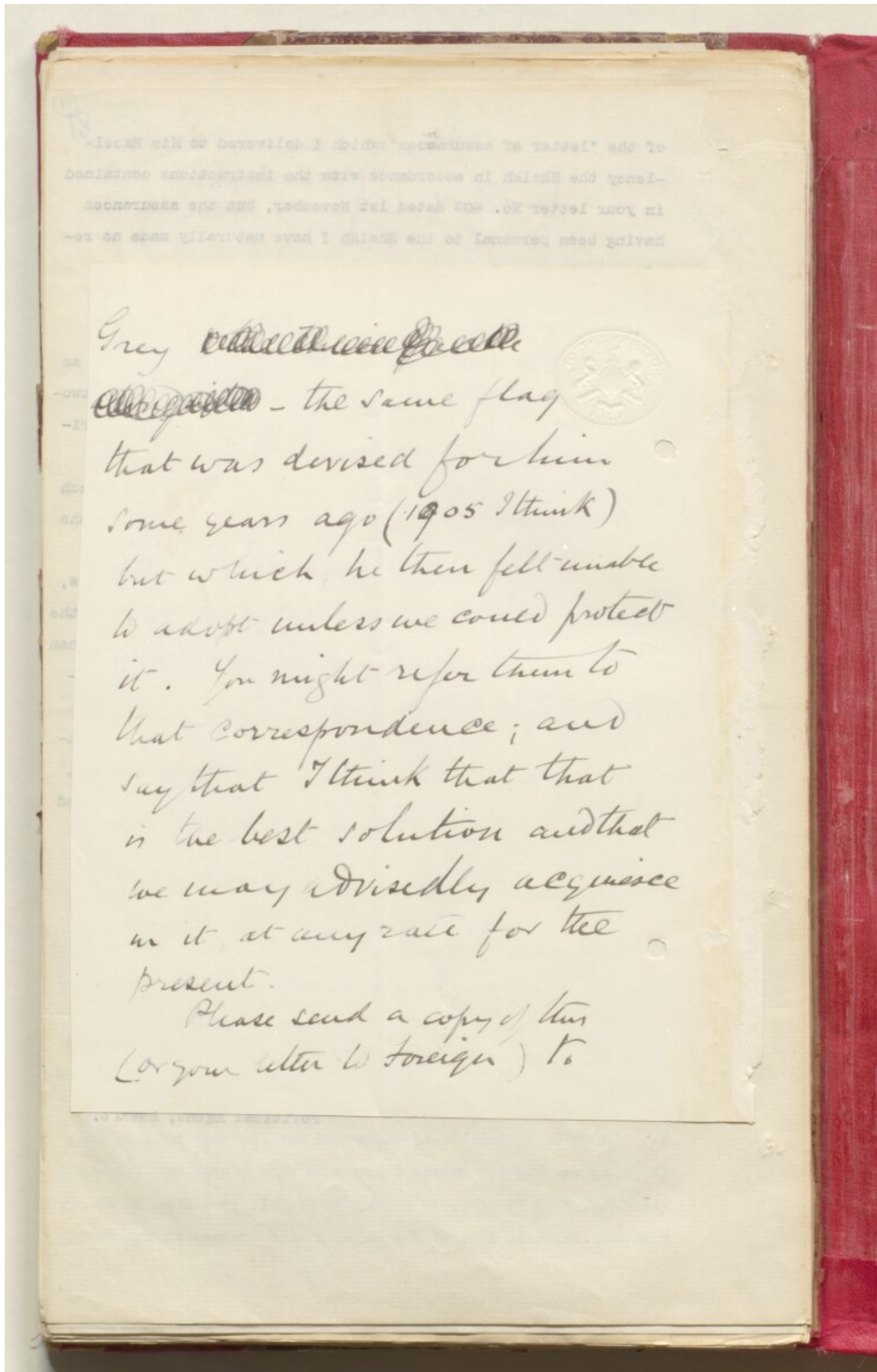
Political Agent, Kuwait.

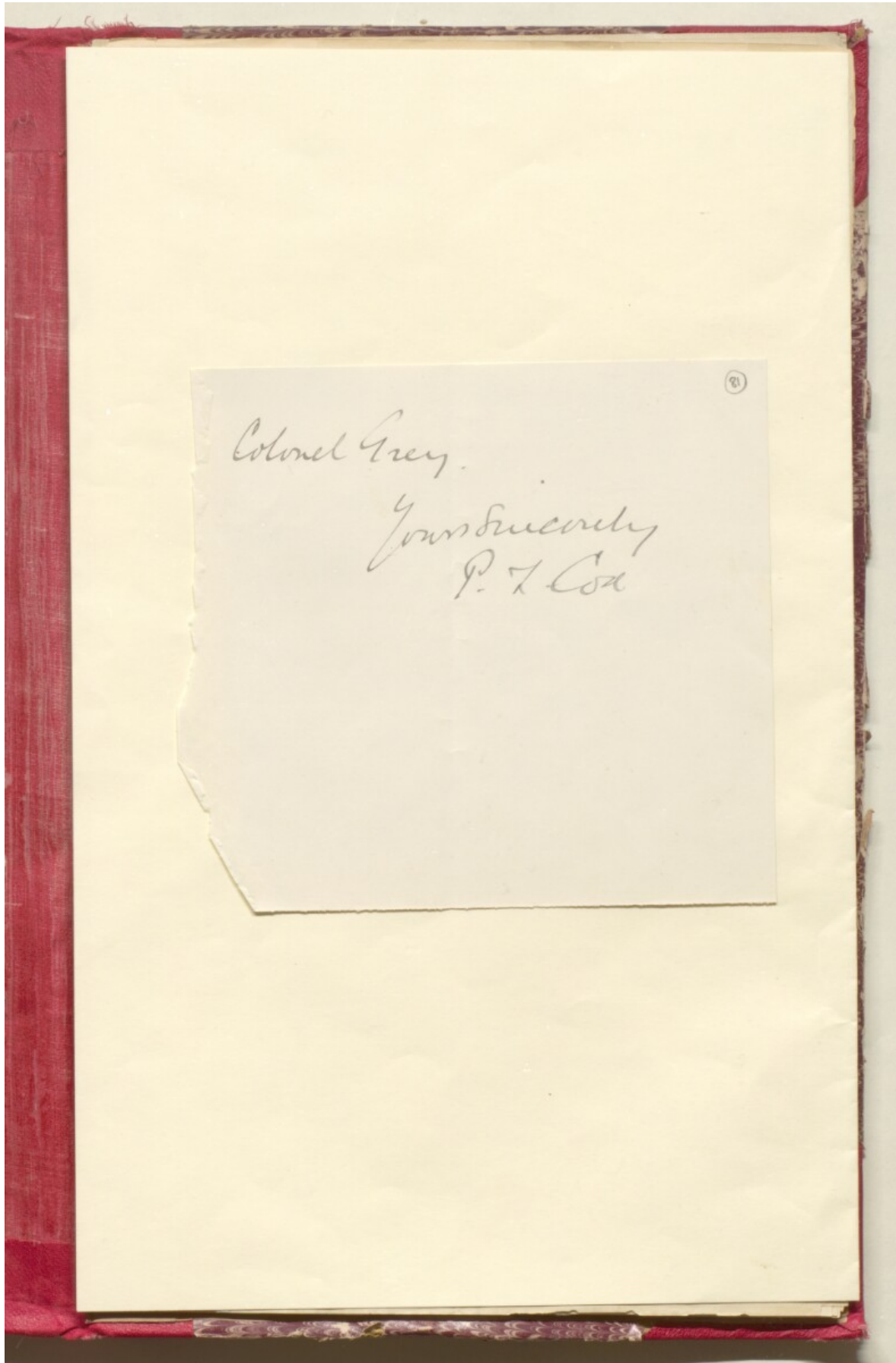


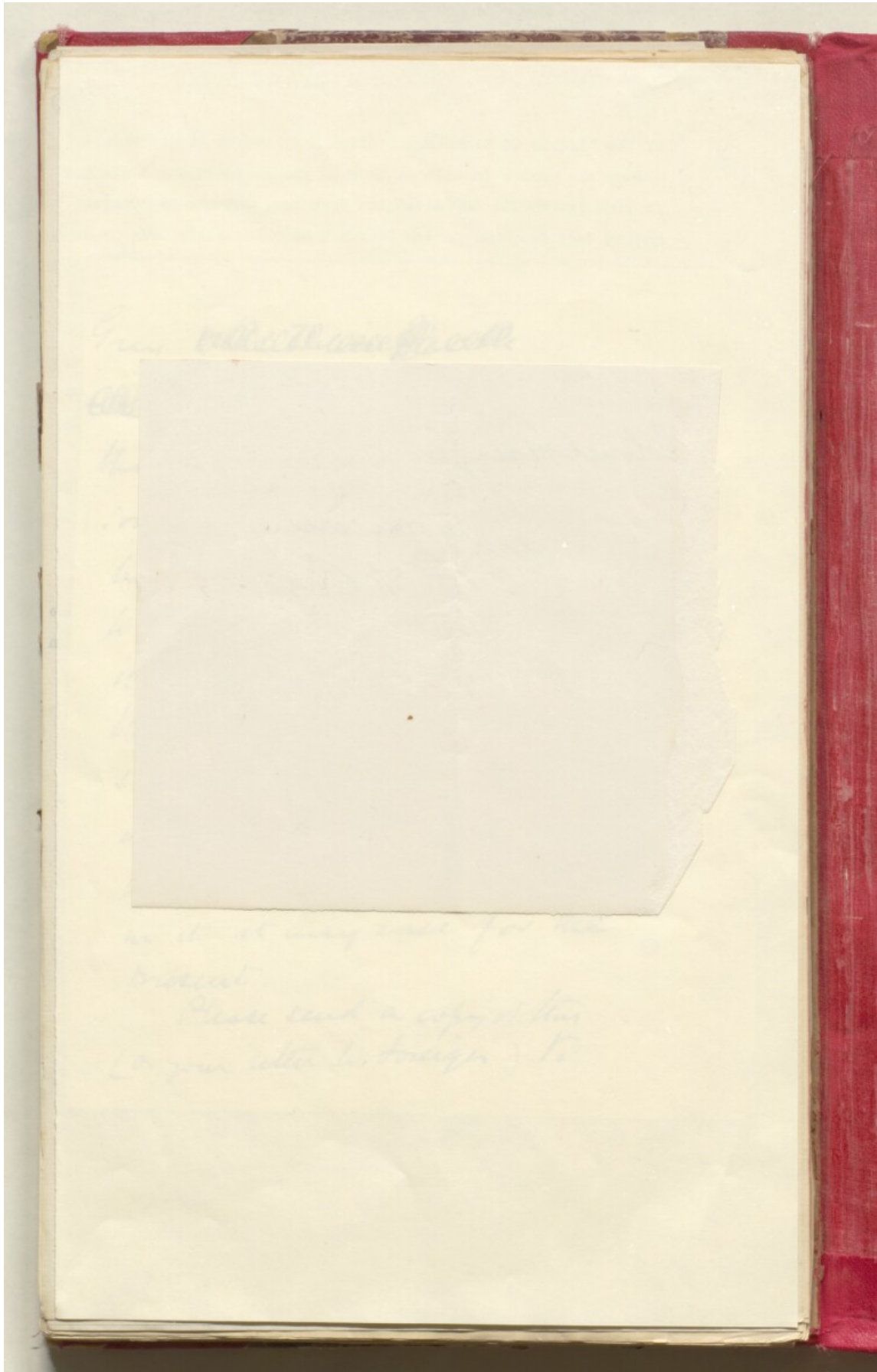


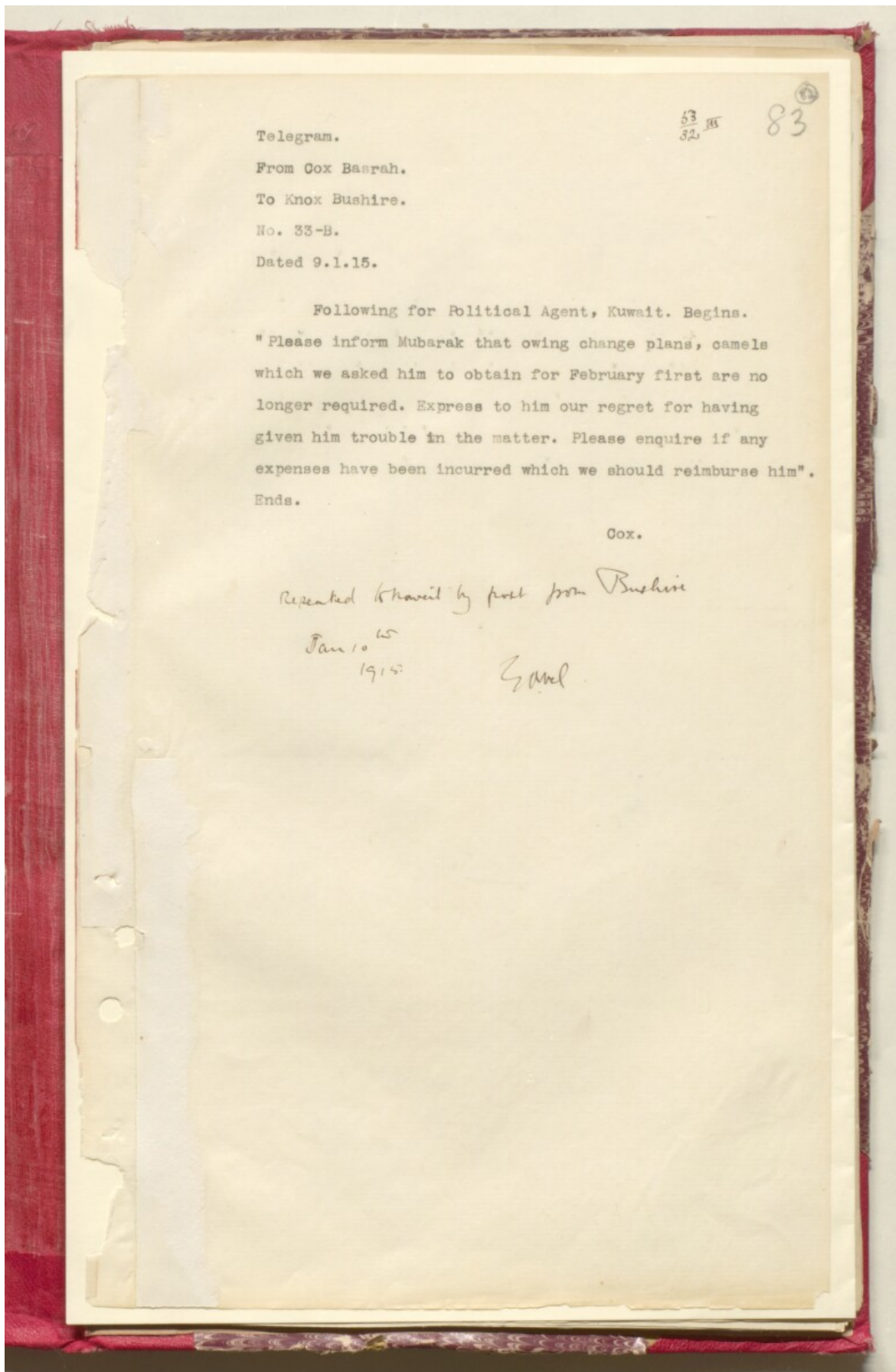
My dear Knox.

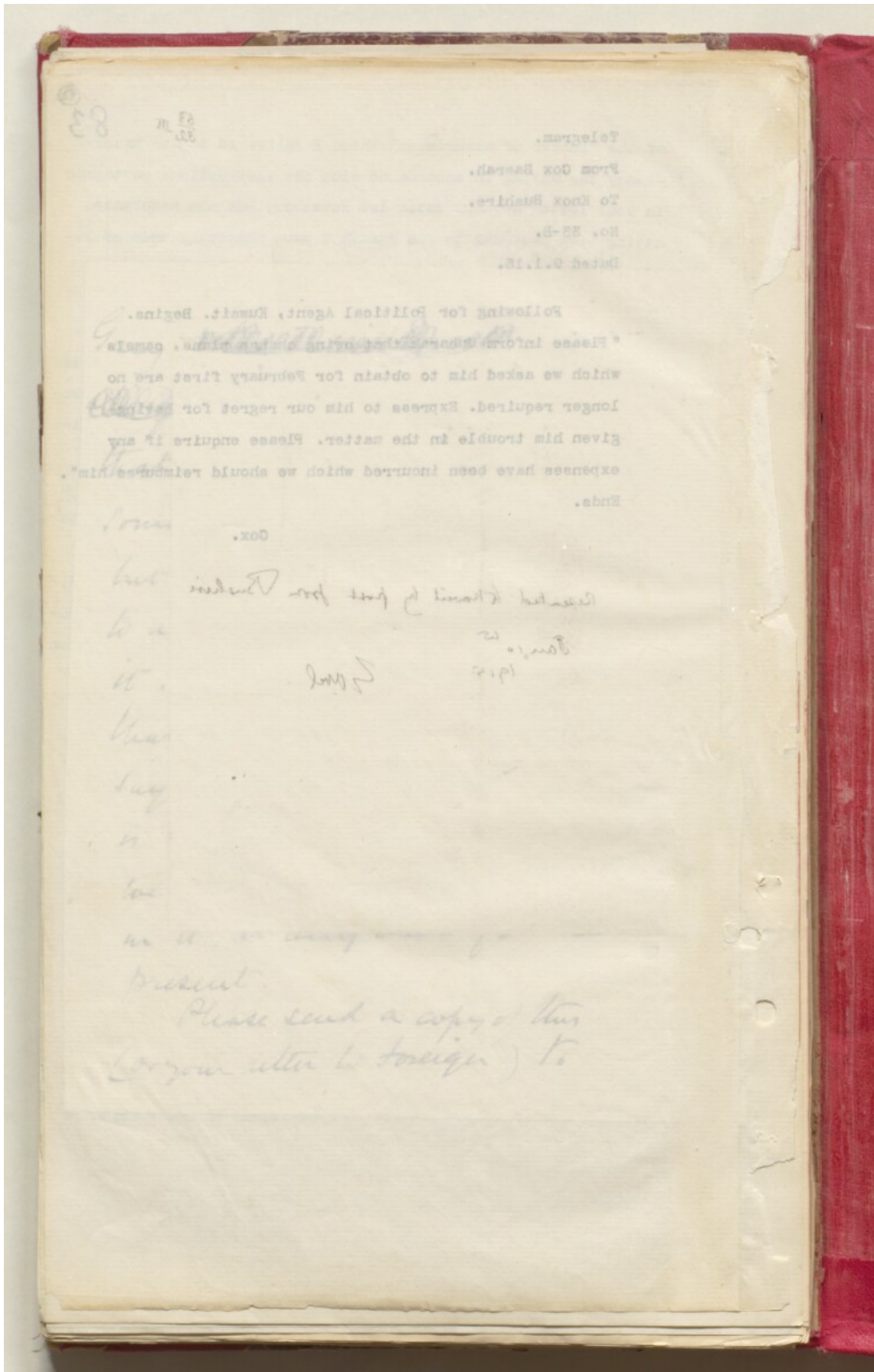
Please see Koweit
letter N.C. 54. d/18. Dec. re Koweit
flag. Please send it on to Foreign
and add that you have heard
from me that since dispatch
of my Tel. of 4. Dec. (N. 84 B) to
Koweit, Shaikh Mubarak
came up to Gurna in his
launch to see me, flying
the flag mentioned by Colonel

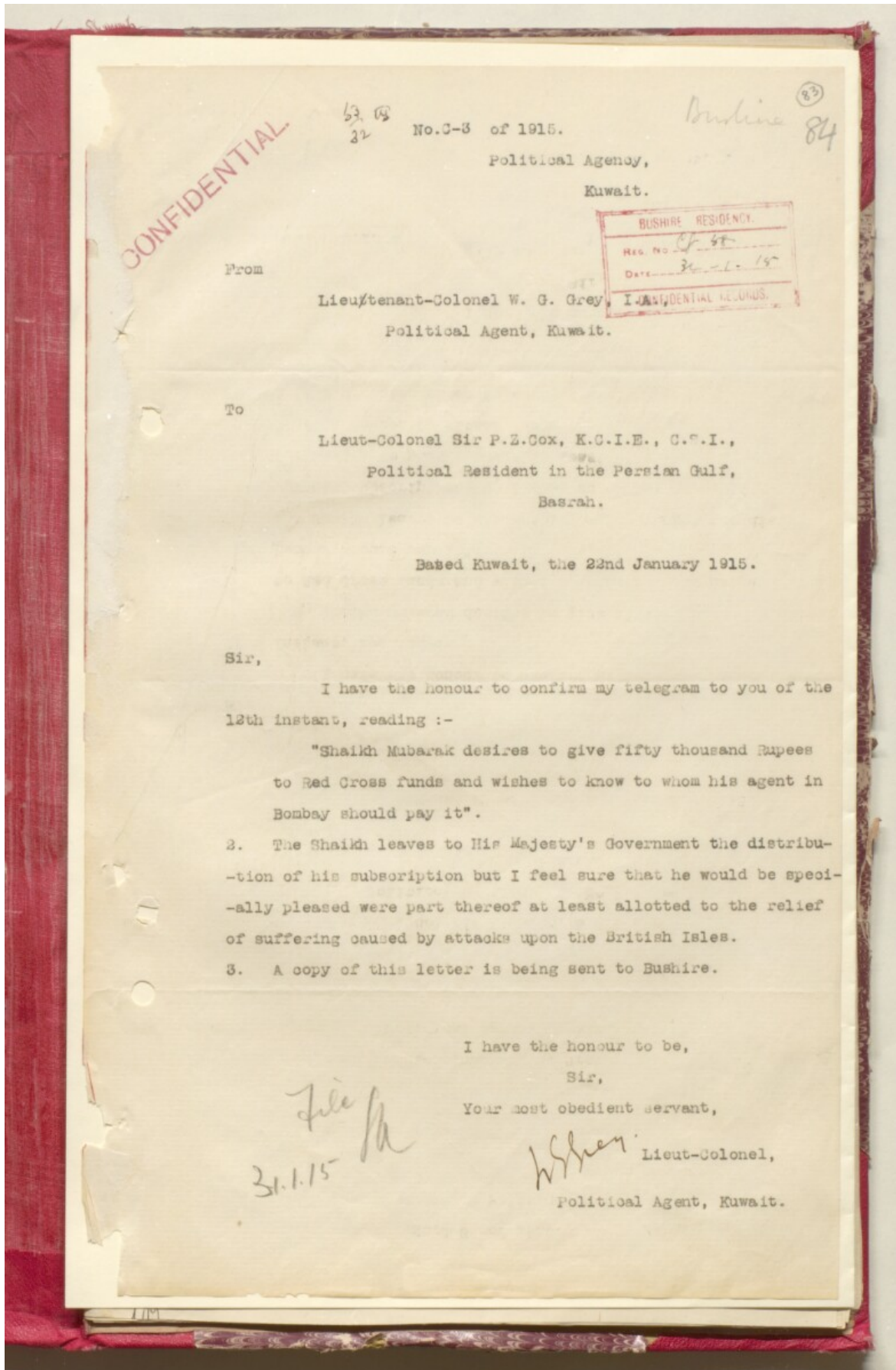


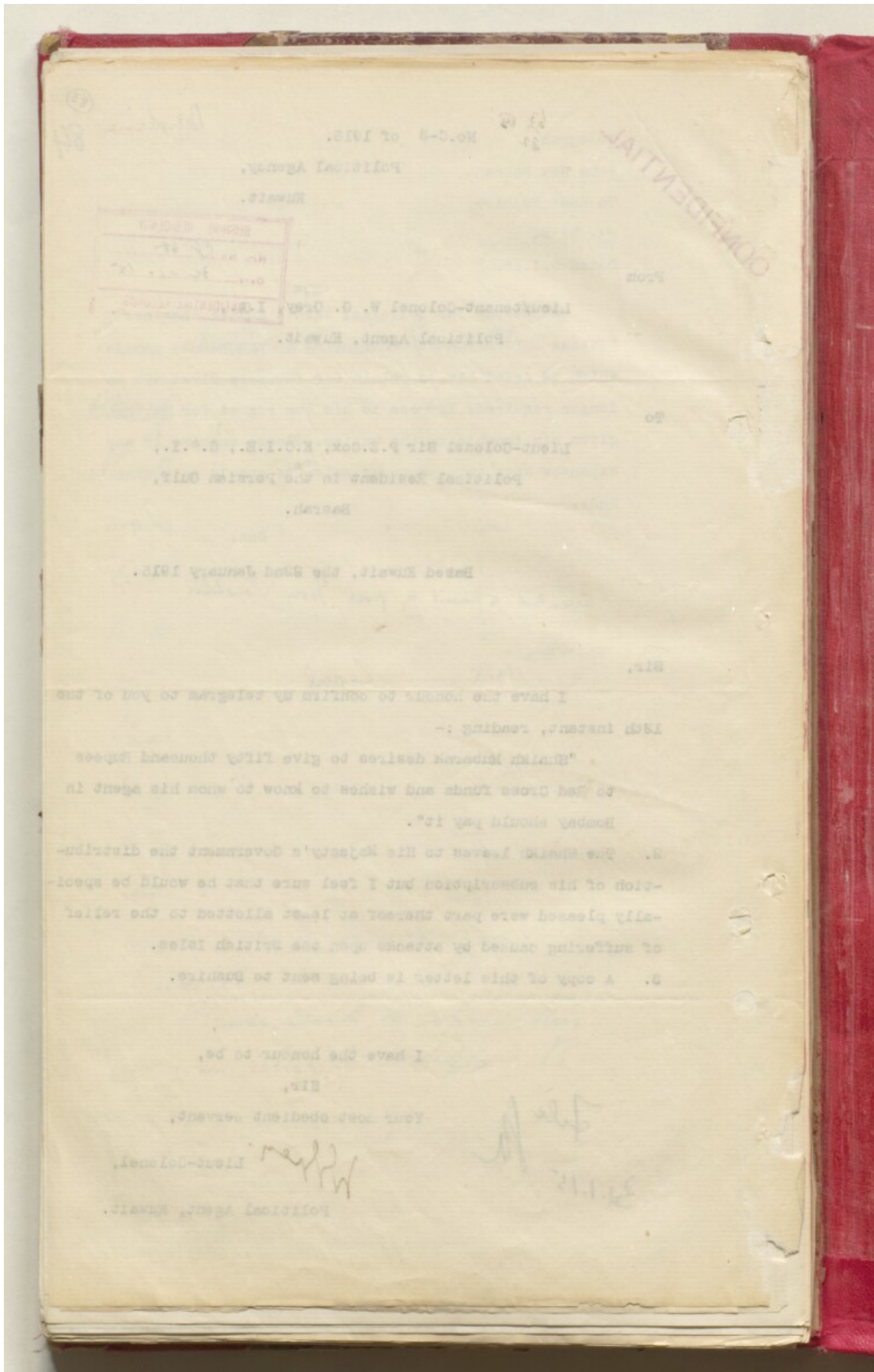


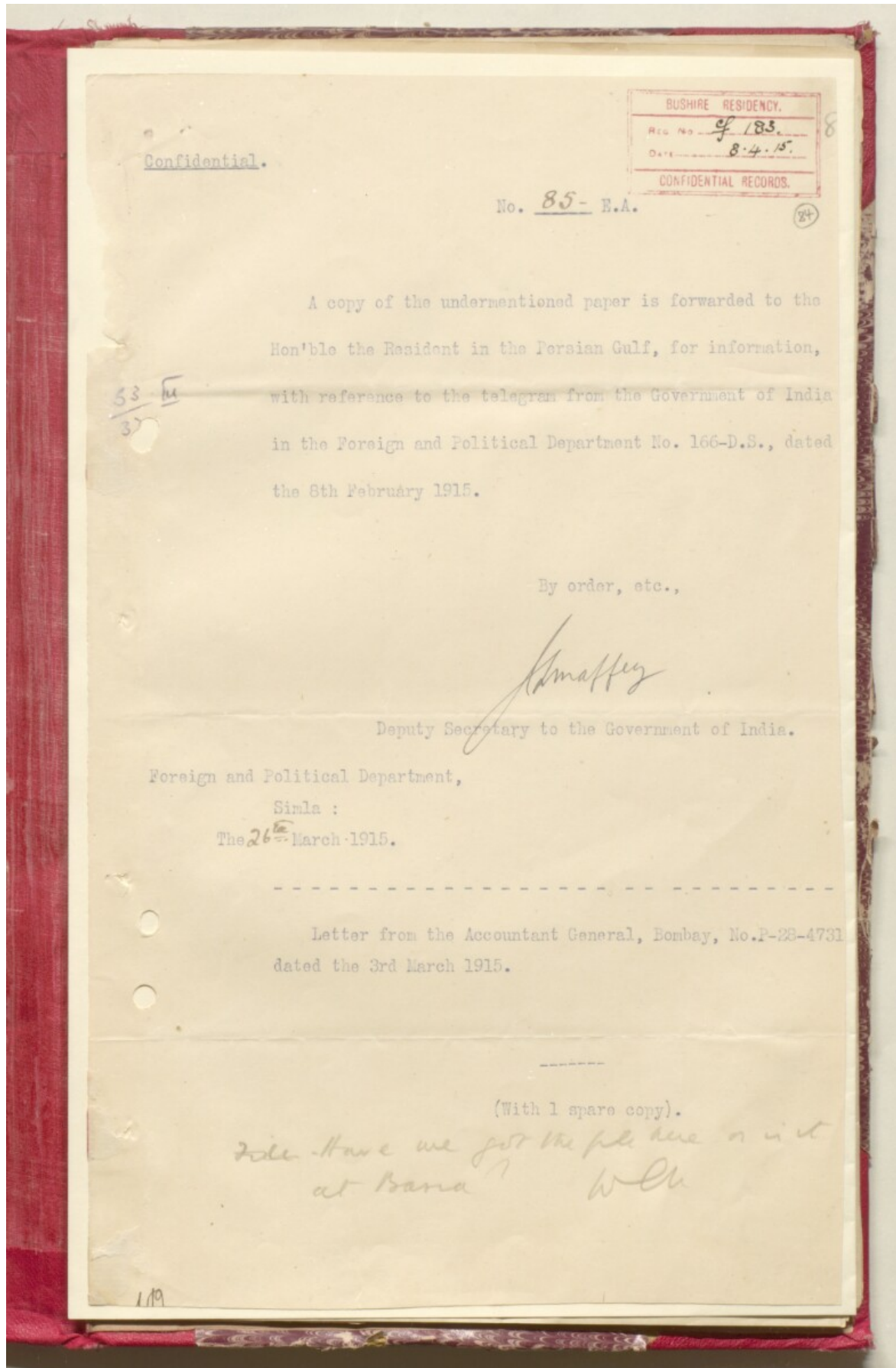


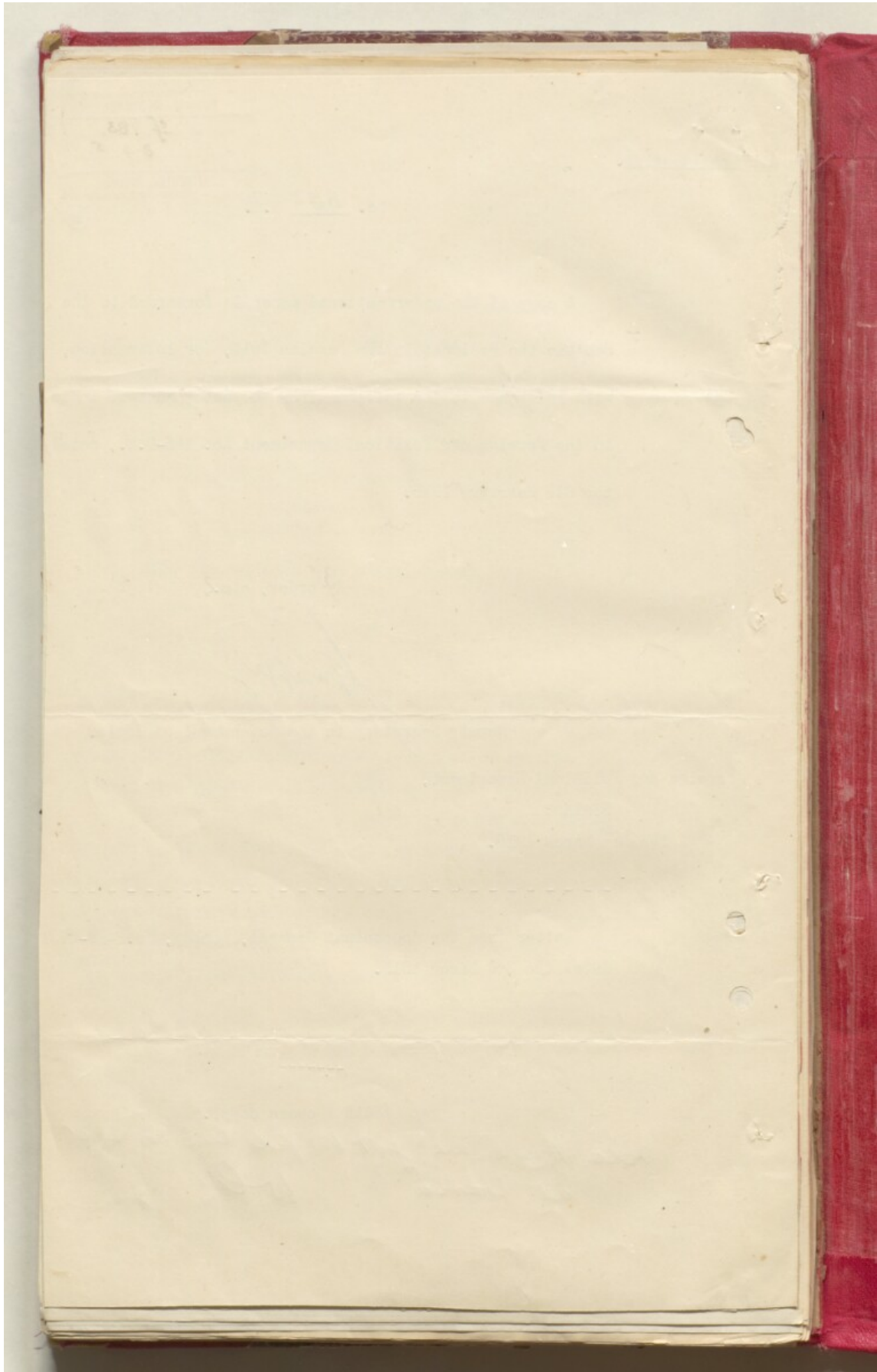


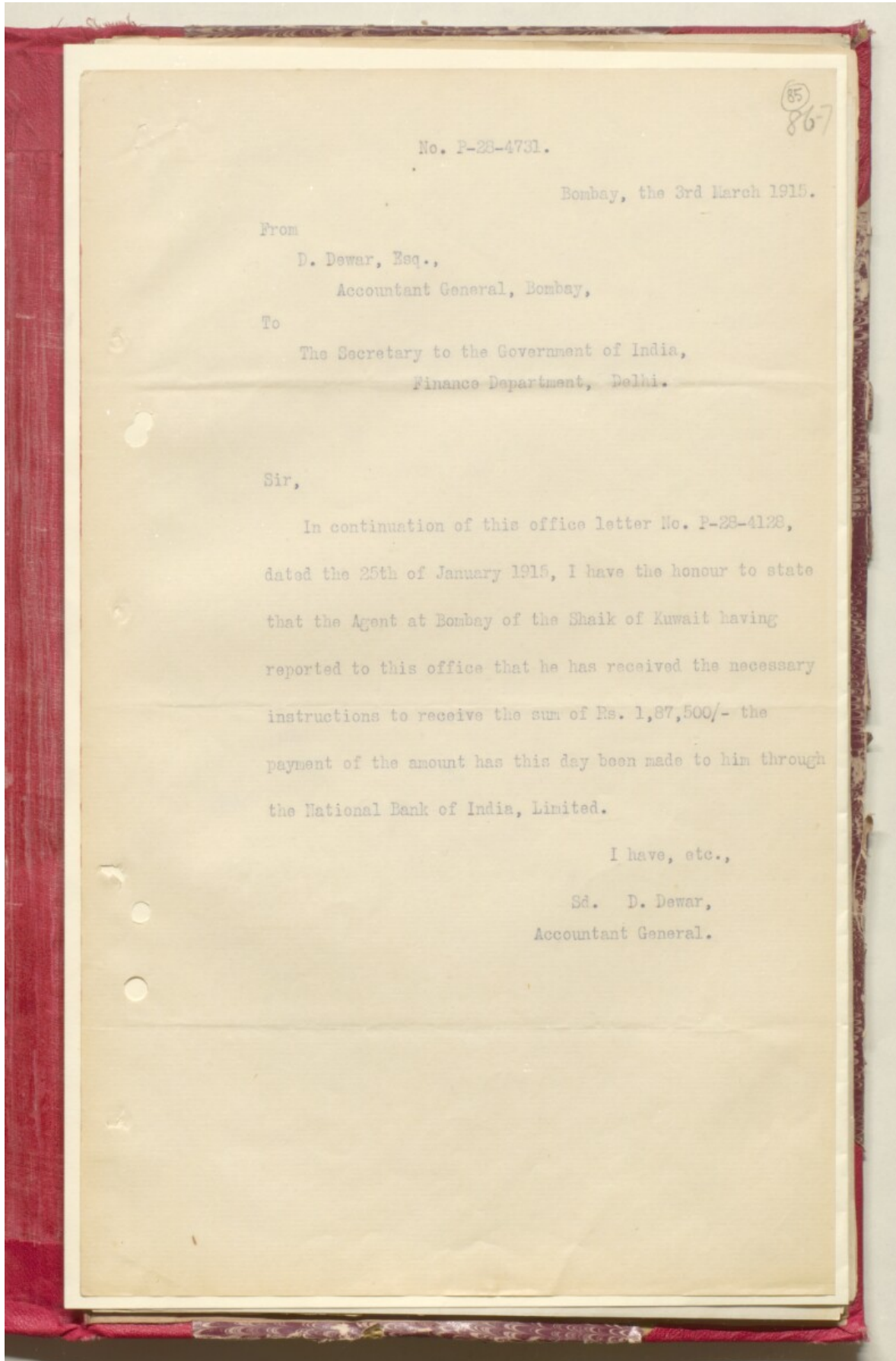












No. P-28-4731.

Bombay, the 3rd March 1915.

From

D. Dewar, Esq.,
Accountant General, Bombay,

To

The Secretary to the Government of India,
Finance Department, Delhi.

Sir,

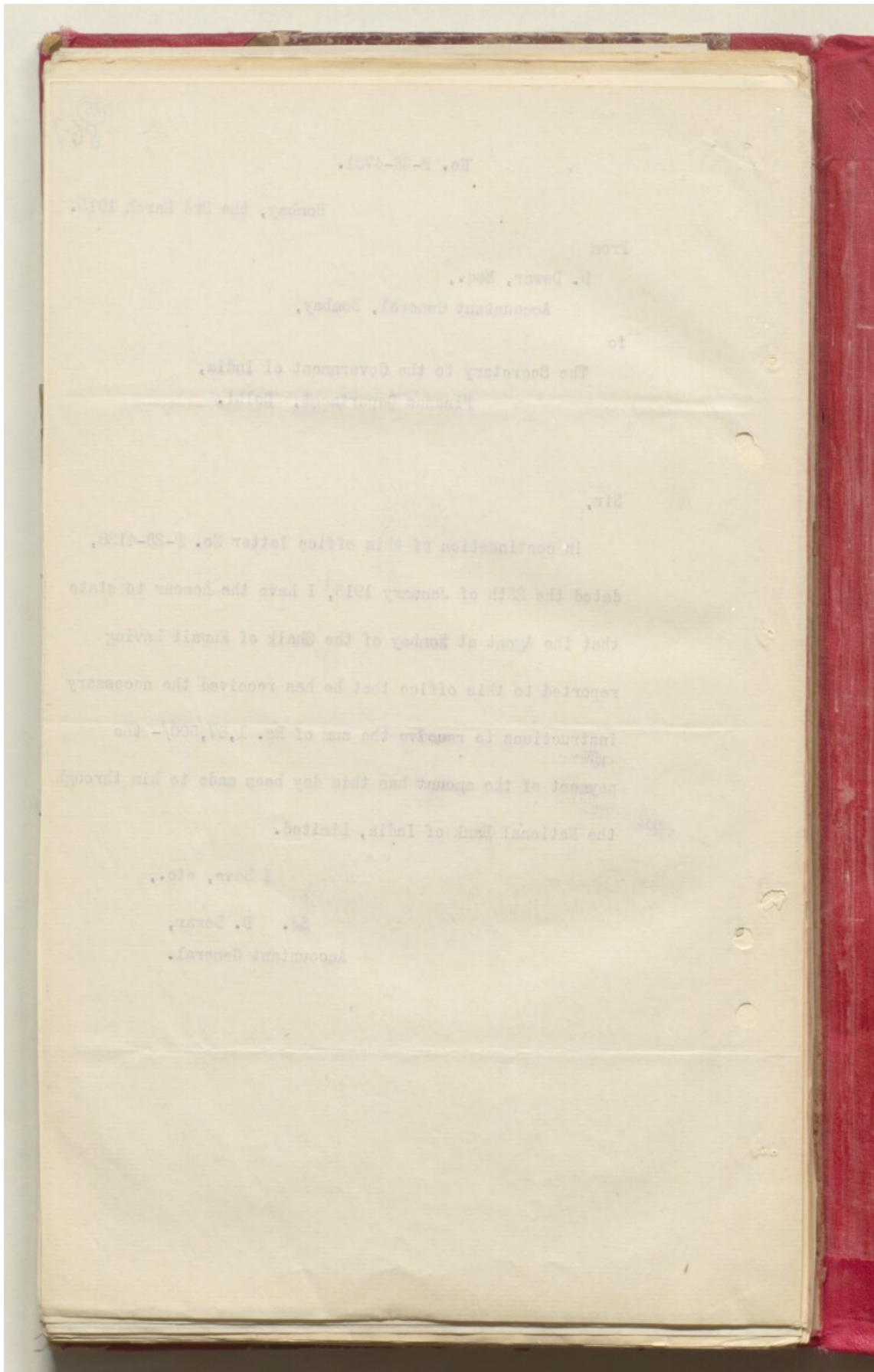
In continuation of this office letter No. P-28-4128,
dated the 25th of January 1915, I have the honour to state
that the Agent at Bombay of the Shaik of Kuwait having
reported to this office that he has received the necessary
instructions to receive the sum of Rs. 1,87,500/- the
payment of the amount has this day been made to him through
the National Bank of India, Limited.

I have, etc.,

Sd. D. Dewar,
Accountant General.



"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [٨٥ ظ] (٤٨٦/١٧٥)





No C/8 of 1915.

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
REG NO. 288.
Date 30. VI. 1915.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

From
Lt-Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 9th June
1915.

Sir,

According to the "Times", Lord Curzon of Kedleston is reported to have remarked as follows on the occasion of an address by Mr P. Landon on Basrah and the Shatt-ul-Arab, at the Society of Arts, on 15th April last:-

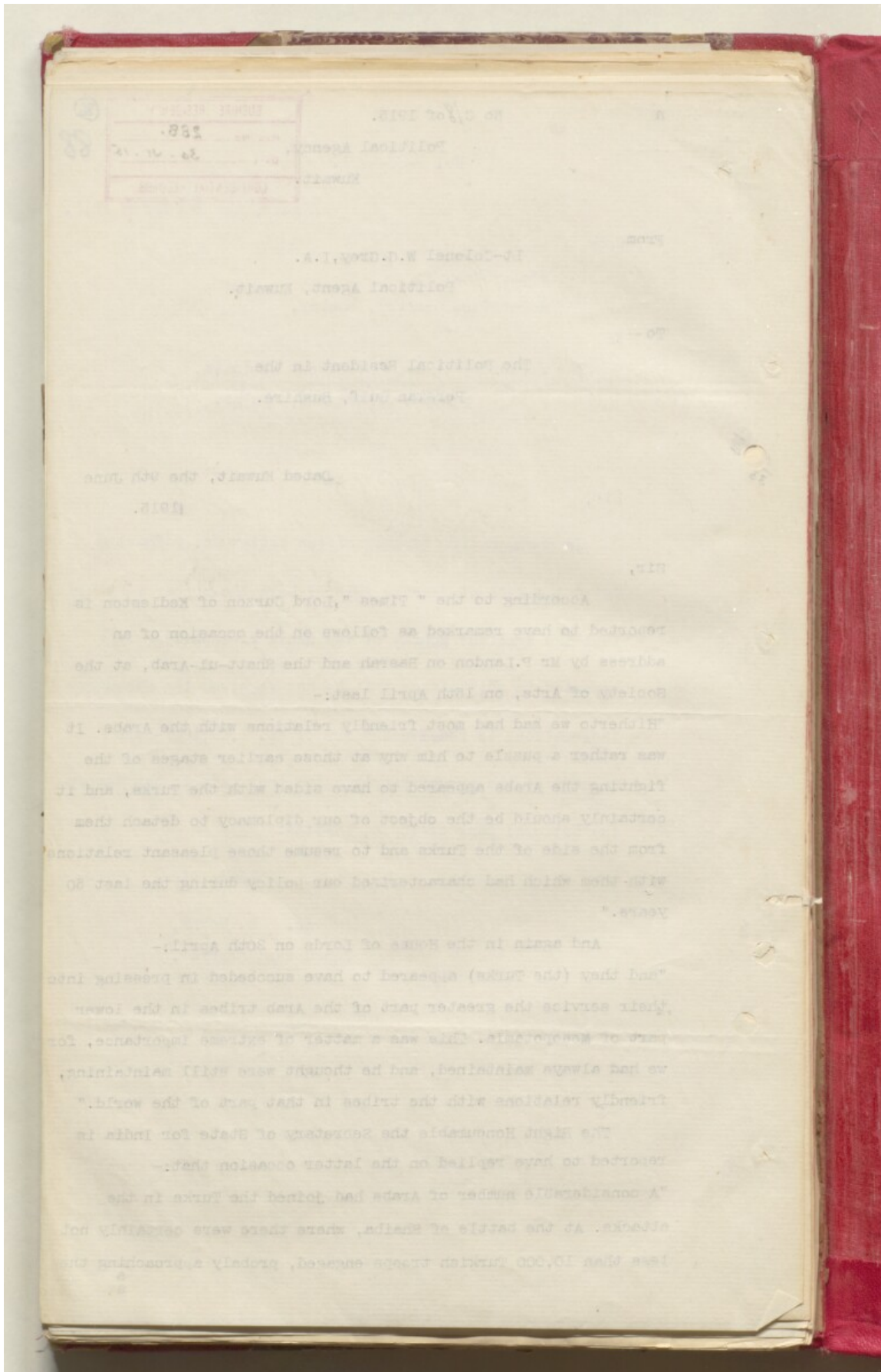
"Hitherto we had had most friendly relations with the Arabs. It was rather a puzzle to him why at those earlier stages of the fighting the Arabs appeared to have sided with the Turks, and it certainly should be the object of our diplomacy to detach them from the side of the Turks and to resume those pleasant relations with them which had characterized our policy during the last 50 years."

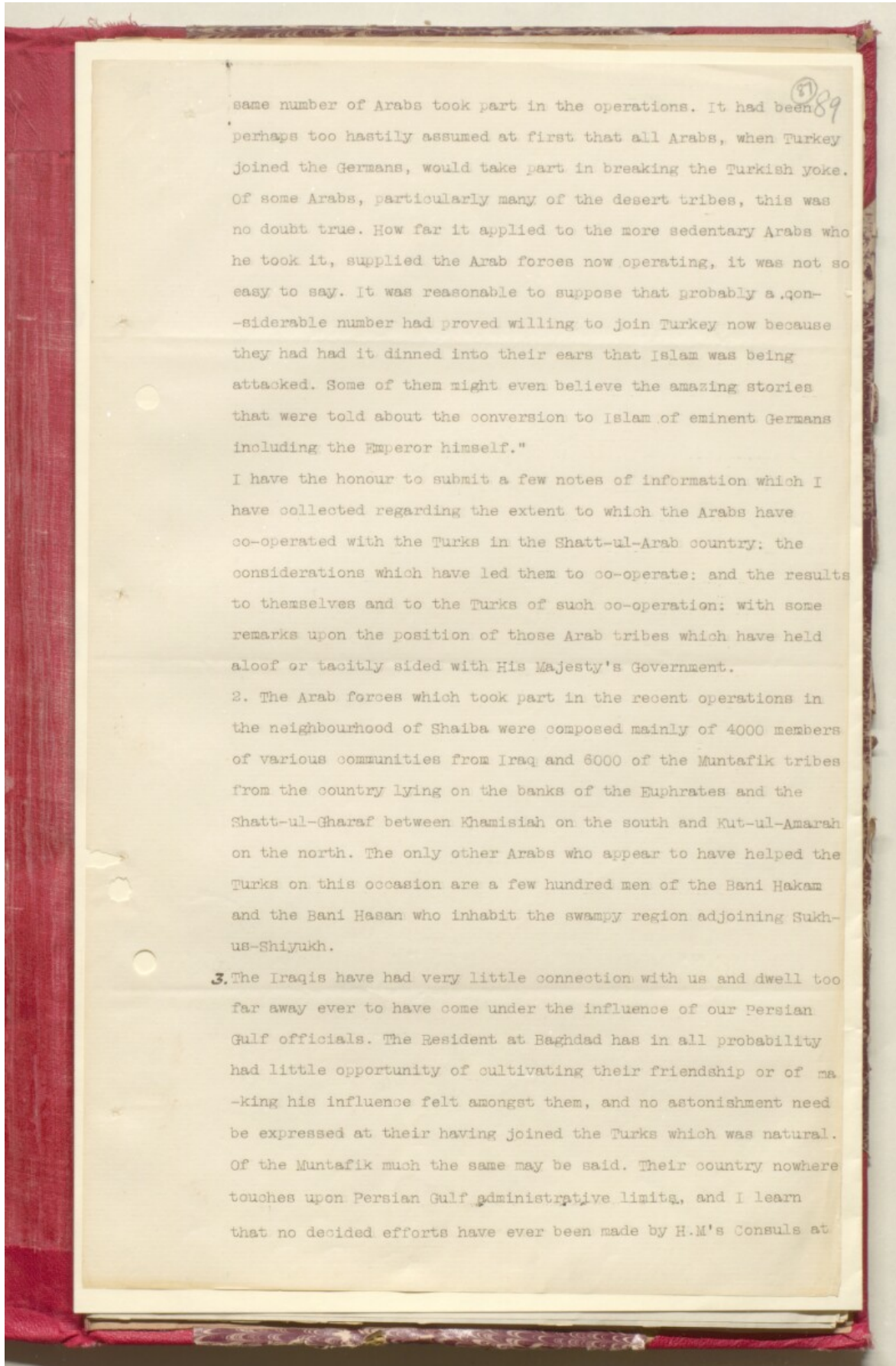
And again in the House of Lords on 20th April:-

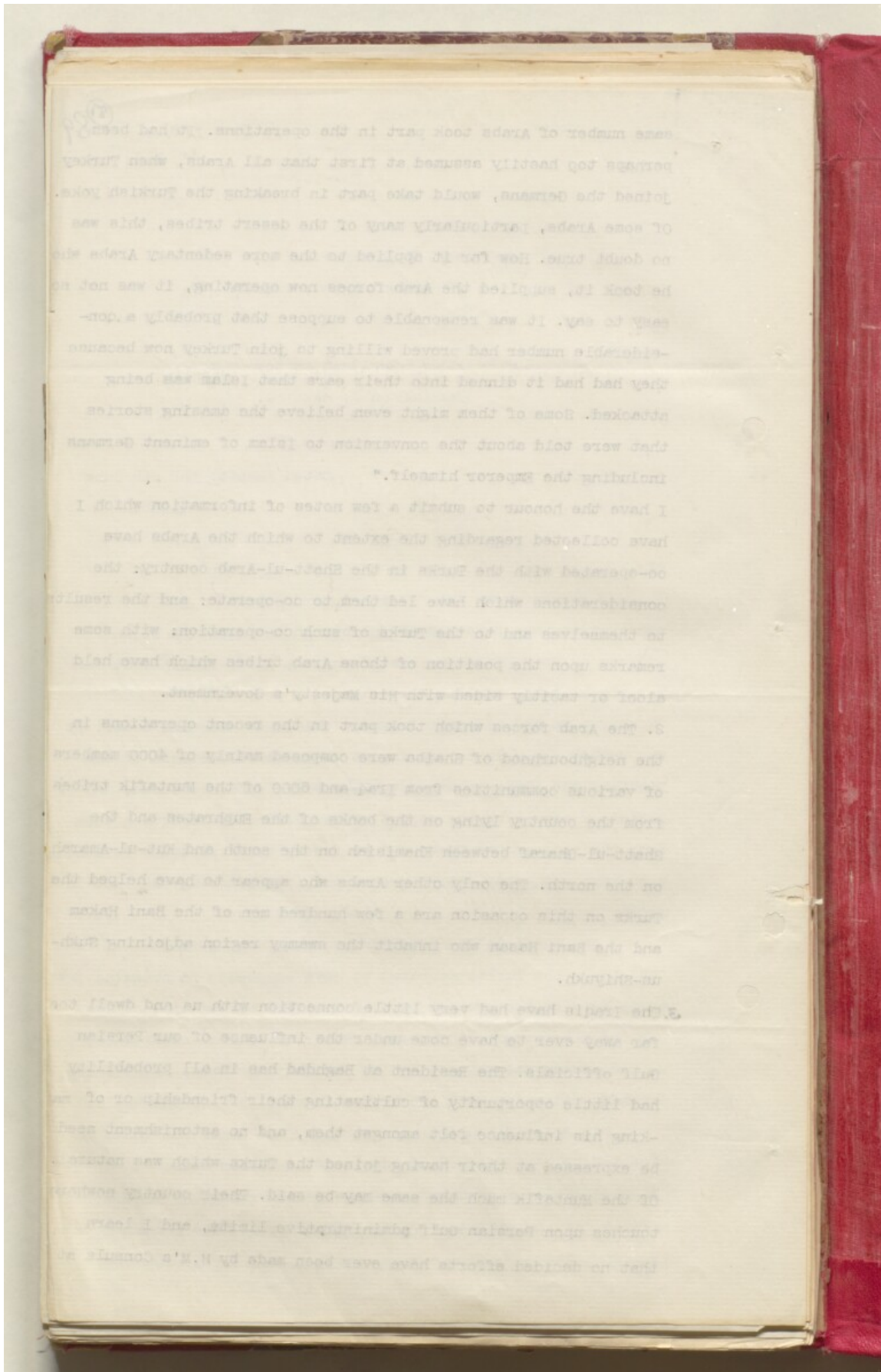
"and they (the Turks) appeared to have succeeded in pressing into their service the greater part of the Arab tribes in the lower part of Mesopotamia. This was a matter of extreme importance, for we had always maintained, and he thought were still maintaining, friendly relations with the tribes in that part of the world."

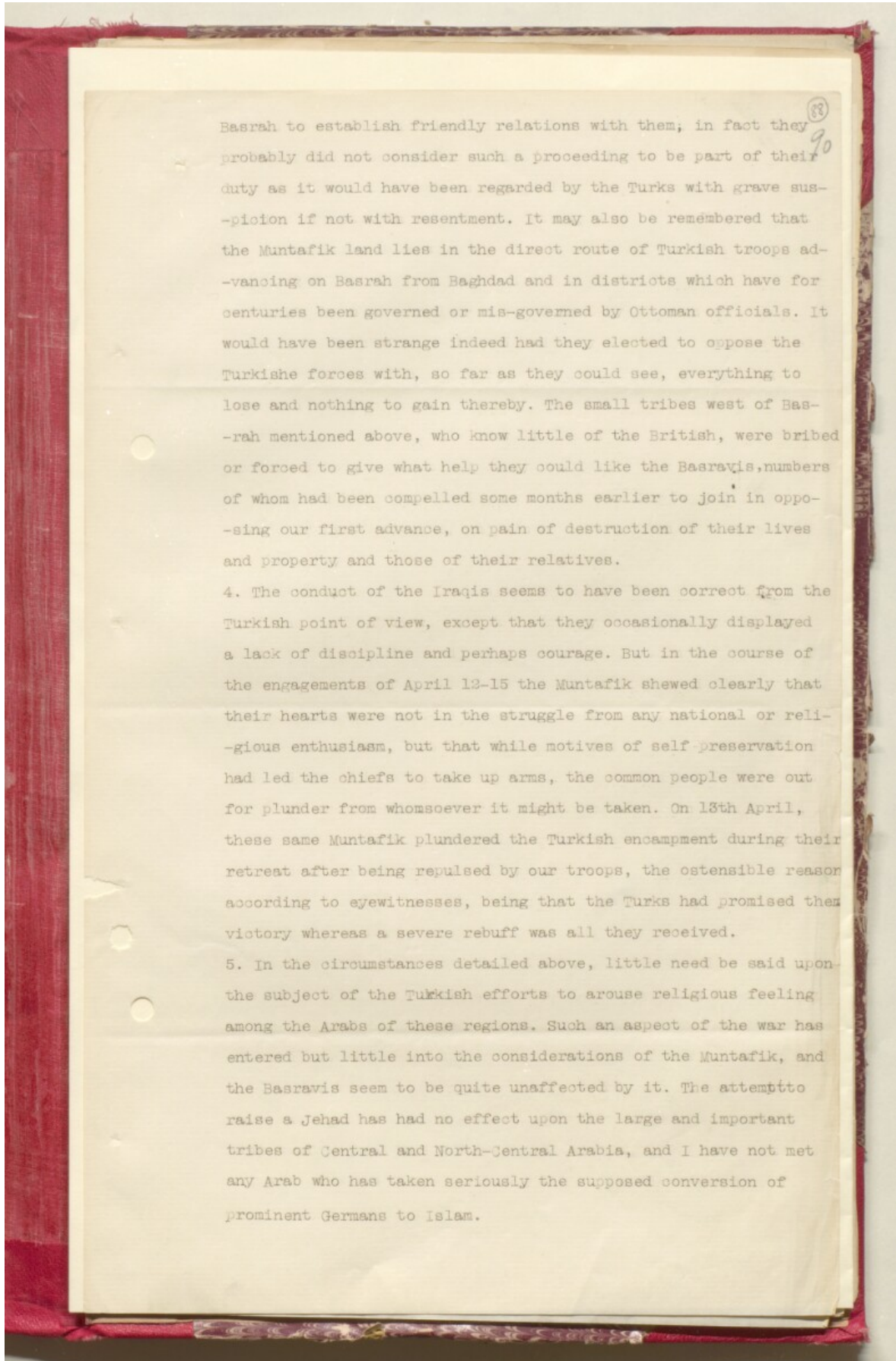
The Right Honourable the Secretary of State for India is reported to have replied on the latter occasion that:-

"A considerable number of Arabs had joined the Turks in the attacks. At the battle of Shaiba, where there were certainly not less than 10,000 Turkish troops engaged, probably approaching the





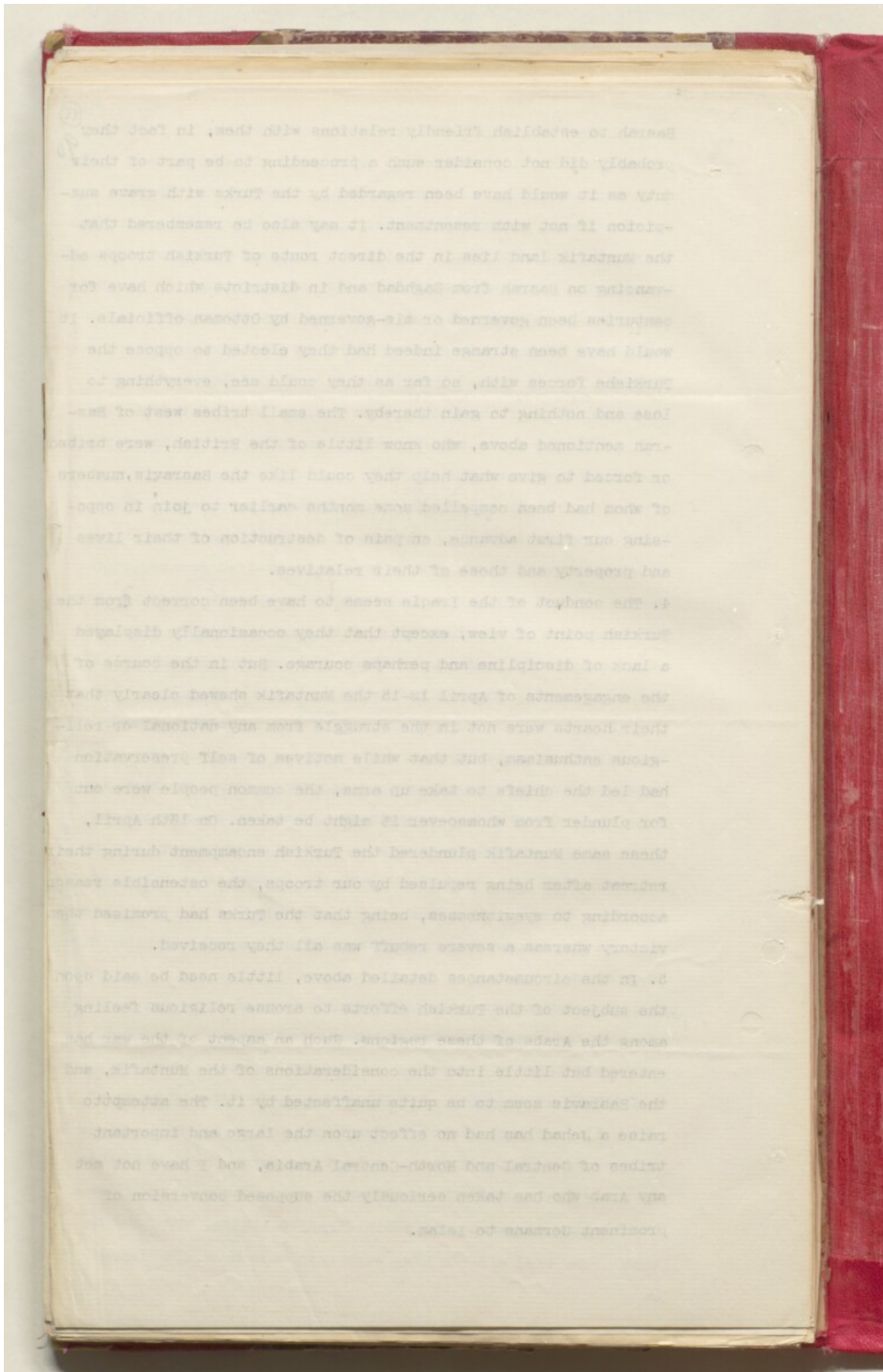




Basrah to establish friendly relations with them; in fact they probably did not consider such a proceeding to be part of their duty as it would have been regarded by the Turks with grave suspicion if not with resentment. It may also be remembered that the Muntafik land lies in the direct route of Turkish troops advancing on Basrah from Baghdad and in districts which have for centuries been governed or mis-governed by Ottoman officials. It would have been strange indeed had they elected to oppose the Turkish forces with, so far as they could see, everything to lose and nothing to gain thereby. The small tribes west of Basrah mentioned above, who know little of the British, were bribed or forced to give what help they could like the Basrahis, numbers of whom had been compelled some months earlier to join in opposing our first advance, on pain of destruction of their lives and property and those of their relatives.

4. The conduct of the Iraqis seems to have been correct from the Turkish point of view, except that they occasionally displayed a lack of discipline and perhaps courage. But in the course of the engagements of April 13-15 the Muntafik shewed clearly that their hearts were not in the struggle from any national or religious enthusiasm, but that while motives of self-preservation had led the chiefs to take up arms, the common people were out for plunder from whomsoever it might be taken. On 13th April, these same Muntafik plundered the Turkish encampment during their retreat after being repulsed by our troops, the ostensible reason according to eyewitnesses, being that the Turks had promised them victory whereas a severe rebuff was all they received.

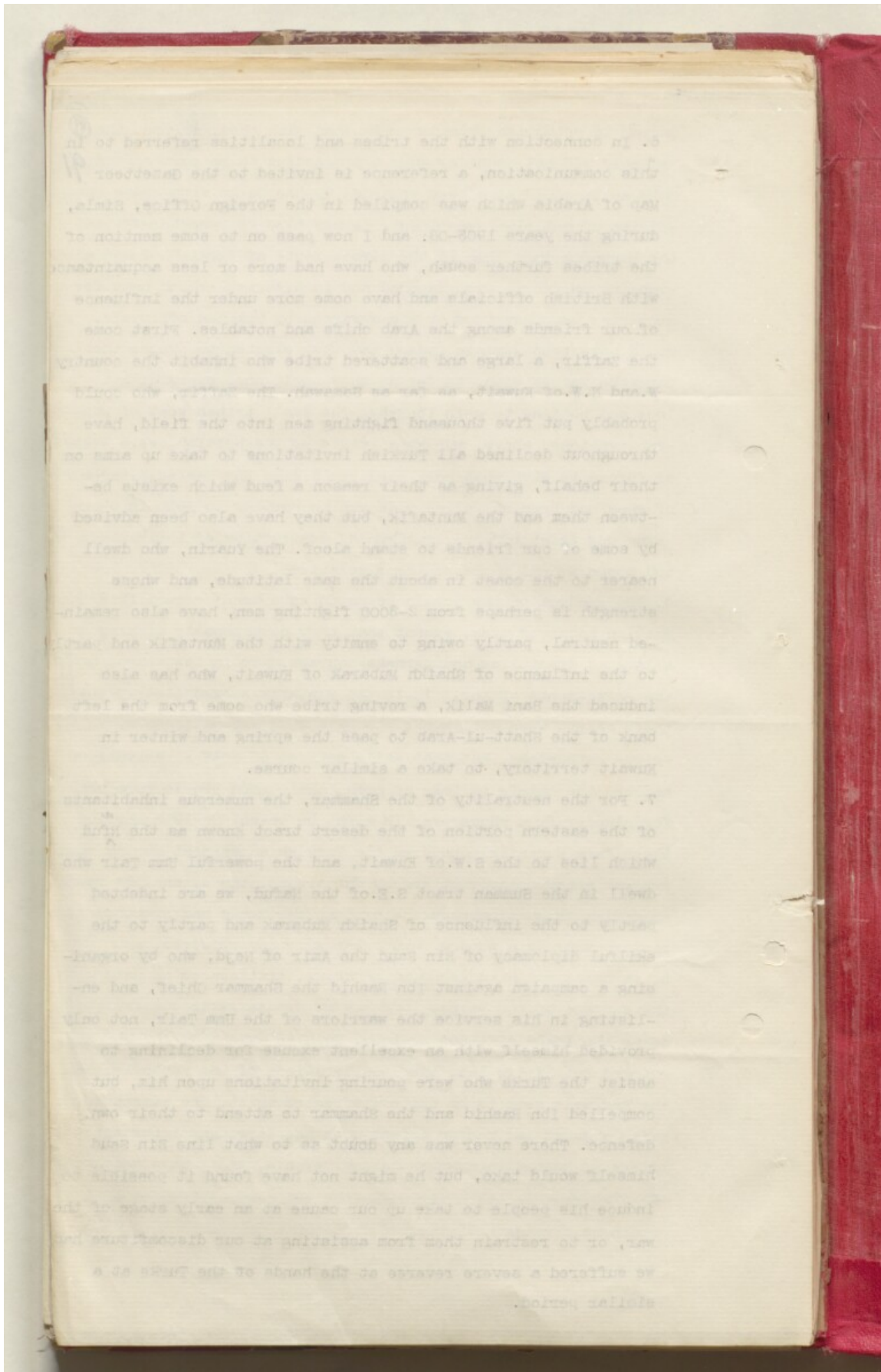
5. In the circumstances detailed above, little need be said upon the subject of the Turkish efforts to arouse religious feeling among the Arabs of these regions. Such an aspect of the war has entered but little into the considerations of the Muntafik, and the Basrahis seem to be quite unaffected by it. The attempt to raise a Jihad has had no effect upon the large and important tribes of Central and North-Central Arabia, and I have not met any Arab who has taken seriously the supposed conversion of prominent Germans to Islam.

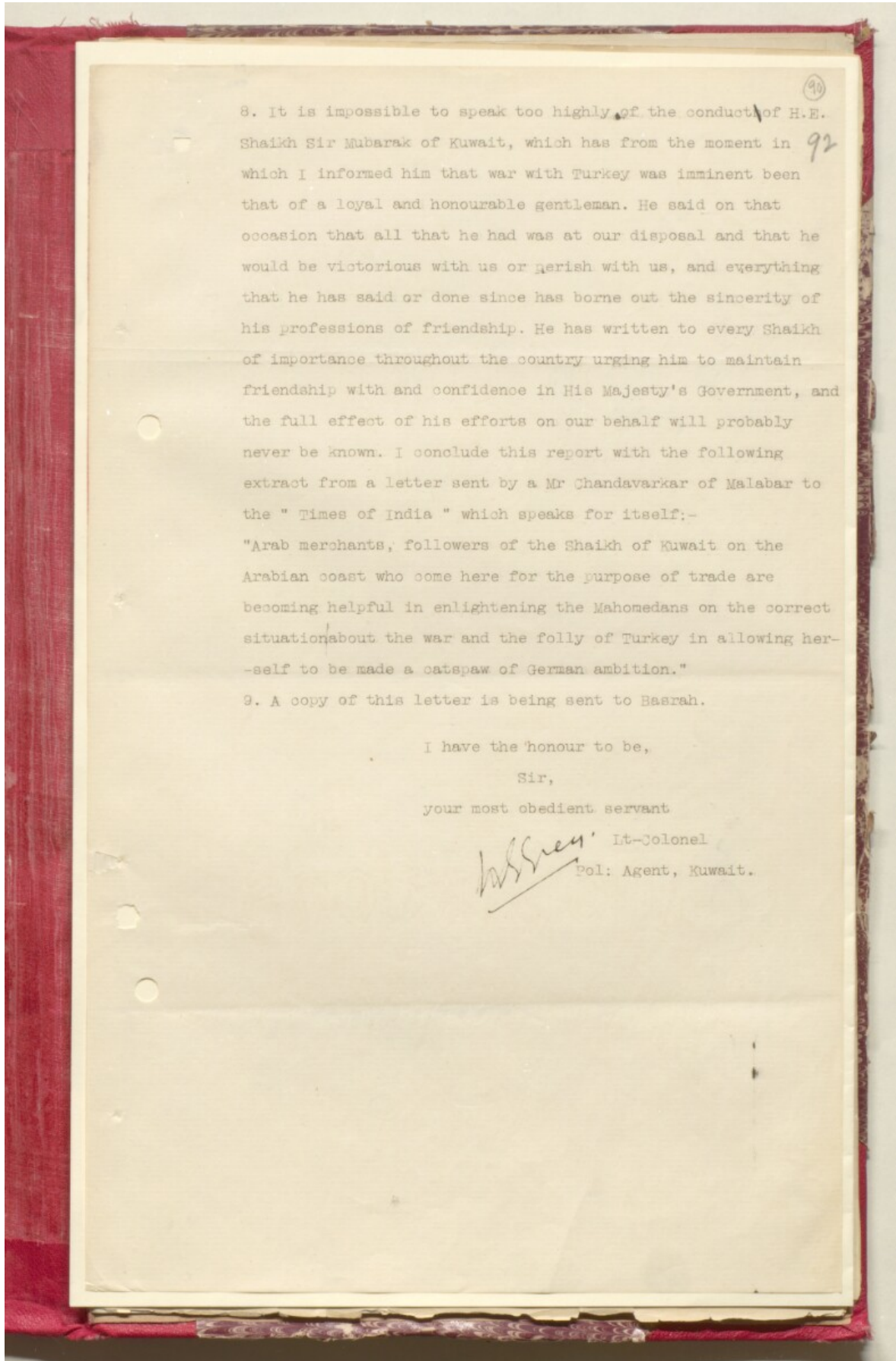
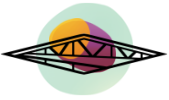


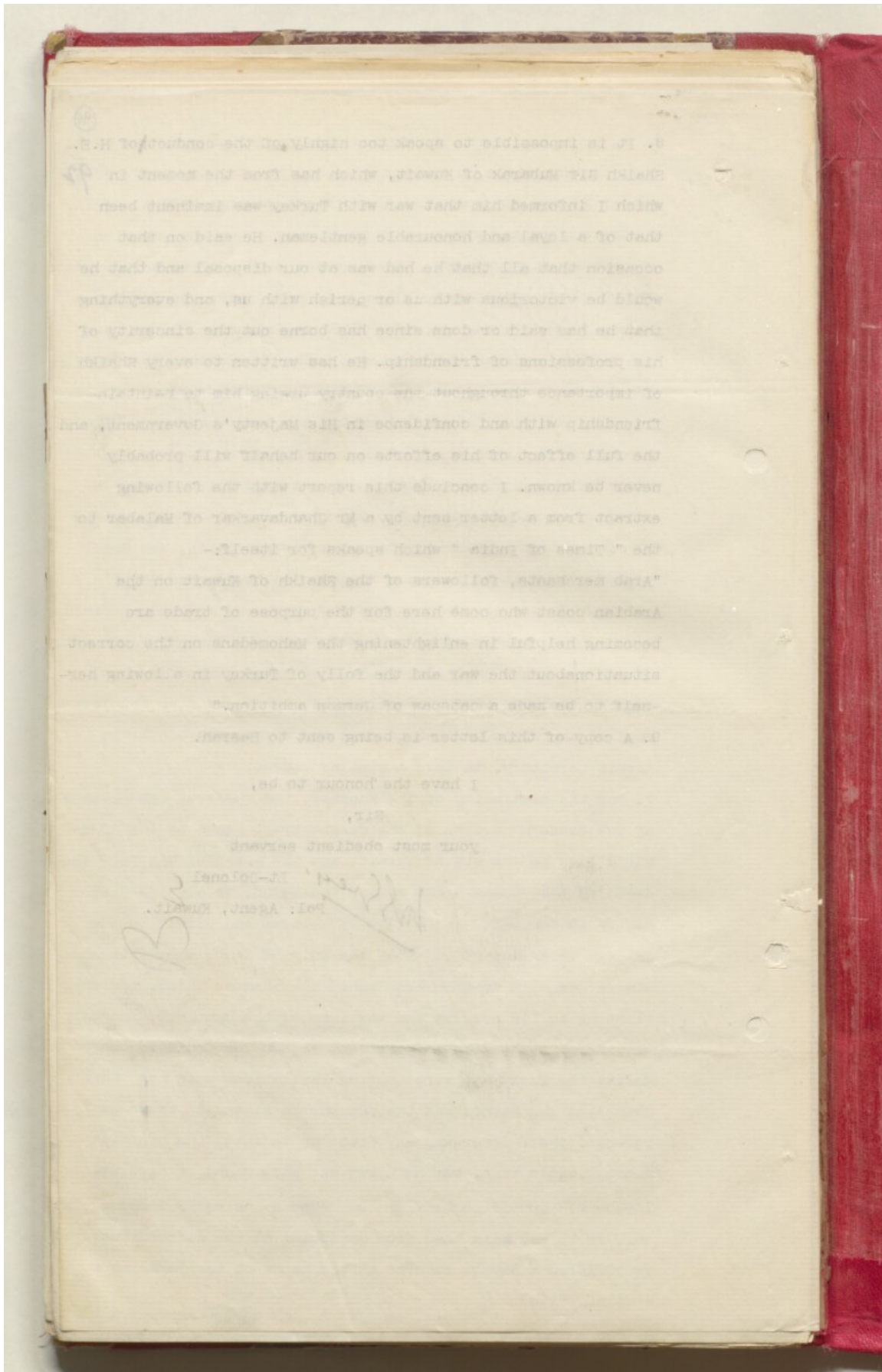
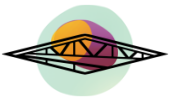


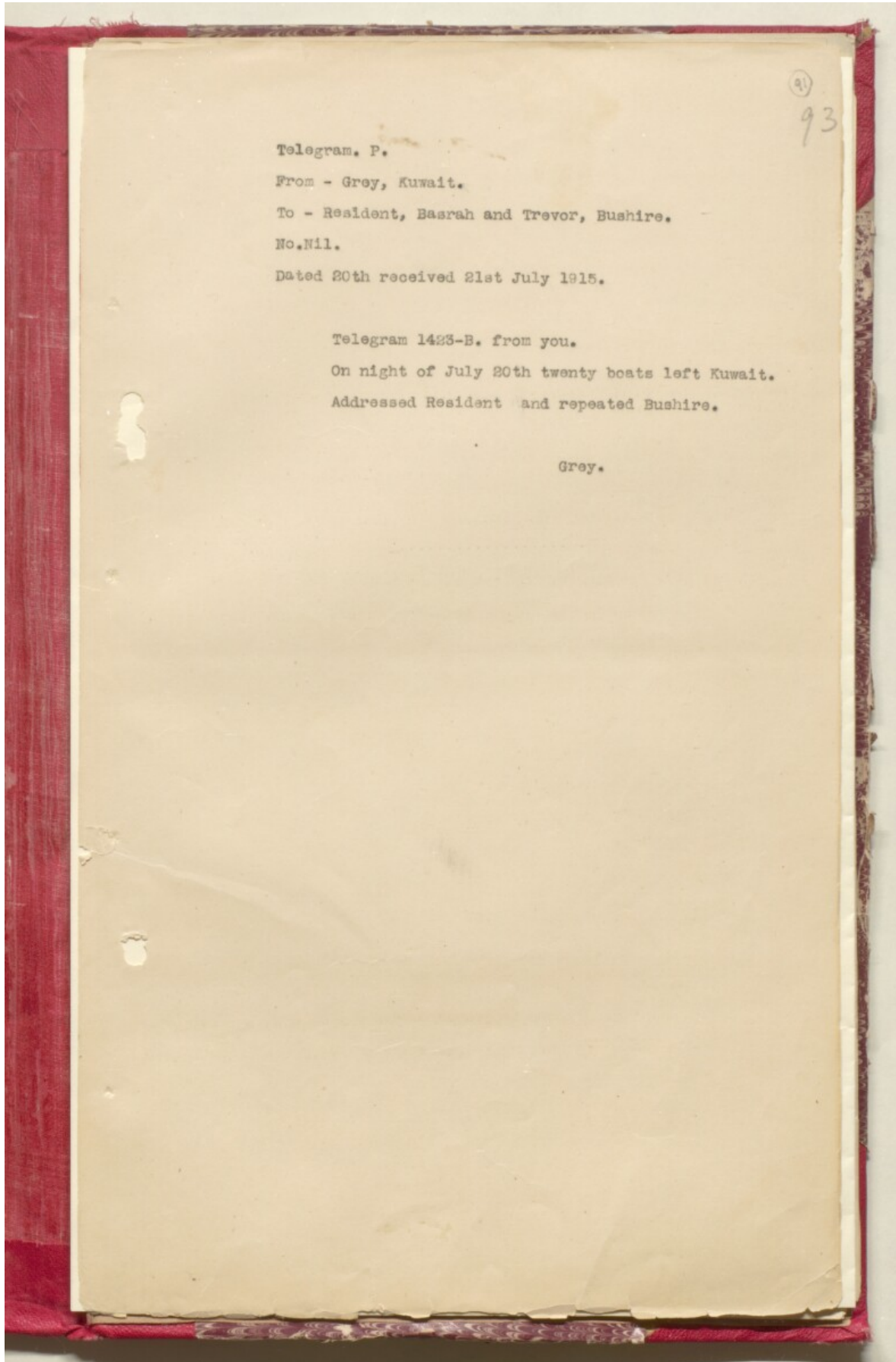
6. In connection with the tribes and localities referred to in this communication, a reference is invited to the Gazetteer ⁸¹ 91 Map of Arabia which was compiled in the Foreign Office, Simla, during the years 1905-08; and I now pass on to some mention of the tribes further south, who have had more or less acquaintance with British officials and have come more under the influence of our friends among the Arab chiefs and notables. First come the Zaffir, a large and scattered tribe who inhabit the country W. and N.W. of Kuwait, as far as Samawah. The Zaffir, who could probably put five thousand fighting men into the field, have throughout declined all Turkish invitations to take up arms on their behalf, giving as their reason a feud which exists between them and the Muntafik, but they have also been advised by some of our friends to stand aloof. The Yuarin, who dwell nearer to the coast in about the same latitude, and whose strength is perhaps from 2-3000 fighting men, have also remained neutral, partly owing to enmity with the Muntafik and partly to the influence of Shaikh Mubarak of Kuwait, who has also induced the Bani Malik, a roving tribe who come from the left bank of the Shatt-ul-Arab to pass the spring and winter in Kuwait territory, to take a similar course.

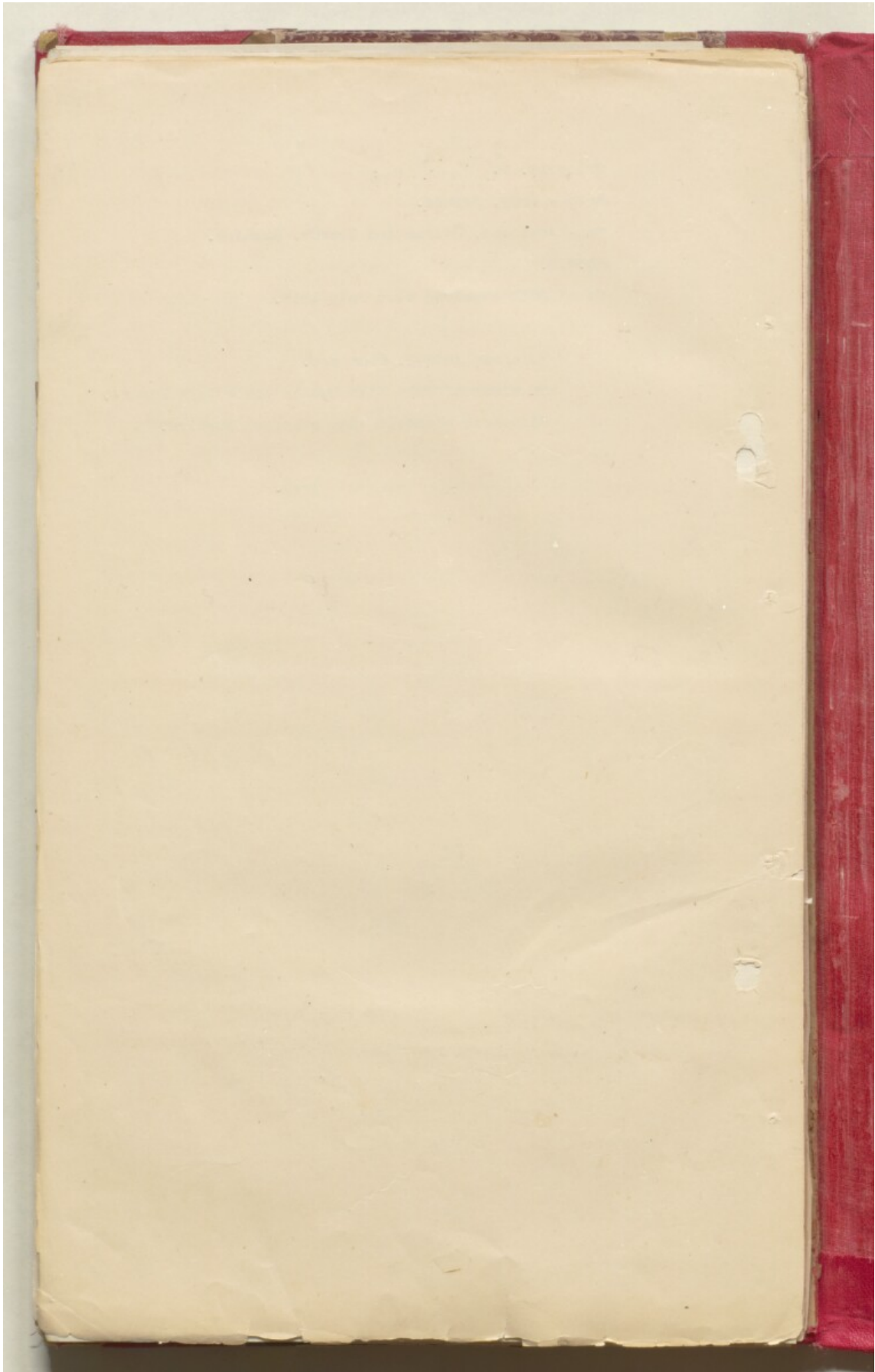
7. For the neutrality of the Shammar, the numerous inhabitants of the eastern portion of the desert tract known as the ^a Nafud which lies to the S.W. of Kuwait, and the powerful Umm Tair who dwell in the Summan tract S.E. of the Nafud, we are indebted partly to the influence of Shaikh Mubarak and partly to the skilful diplomacy of Bin Saud the Amir of Nejd, who by organising a campaign against Ibn Rashid the Shammar Chief, and enlisting in his service the warriors of the Umm Tair, not only provided himself with an excellent excuse for declining to assist the Turks who were pouring invitations upon him, but compelled Ibn Rashid and the Shammar to attend to their own defence. There never was any doubt as to what line Bin Saud himself would take, but he might not have found it possible to induce his people to take up our cause at an early stage of the war, or to restrain them from assisting at our discomfiture had we suffered a severe reverse at the hands of the Turks at a similar period.













No 32 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 94

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt- Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf.

Dated Kuwait, the 6th July 1915.

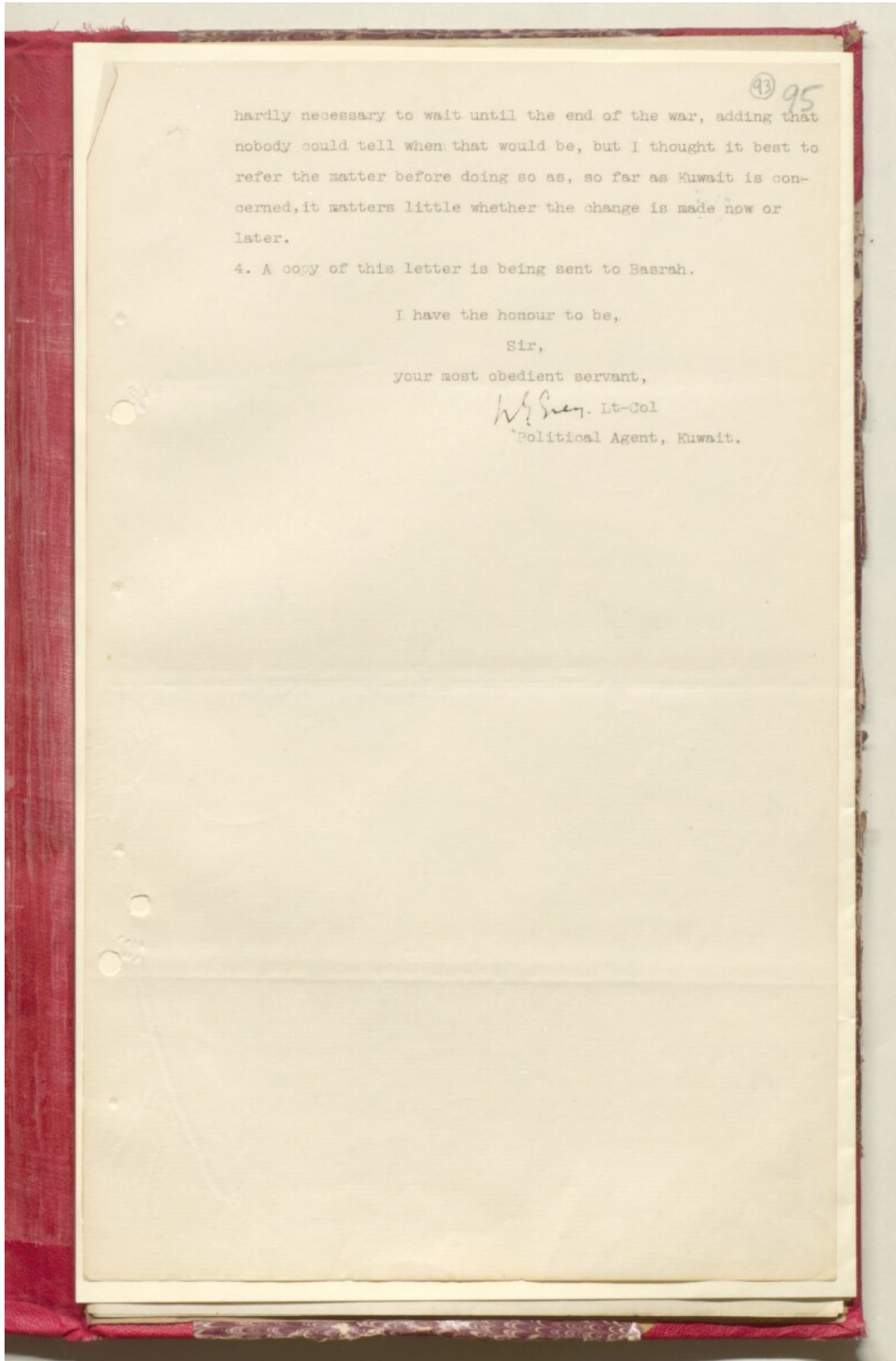
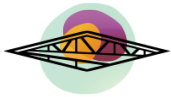
Sir,

I have the honour to report an incident which occurred during a visit which I paid to Shaikh Sir Mubarak bin Subah on the morning of the 5th inst.

2. During a lull in our conversation, the Shaikh suddenly observed that there was something he wished to tell me secretly, and having satisfied himself that we could not be overheard, announced that he had decided to hand over the management of his customs to us at the conclusion of the war. I asked what had prompted him to come to this decision as there was little fault to be found with the present administration. He replied that the present arrangements were satisfactory enough, but that he wished to give the other Shaikhs of the Persian Gulf, the Shaikh of Bahrain and the Sultan of Maskat etc, a proof of his affection and confidence in His Majesty's Government, in the hope that they might follow his example. He said that last year the Shaikh of Bahrain had refused a generous offer from the Govt of India respecting the management of his customs owing to want of confidence, and that a lead from Kuwait would doubtless set that right. I replied that the plan was a very excellent one, which when carried out would increase the satisfaction already felt by His Majesty's Govt at His Excellency's loyal and consistent attitude.

3. Should it be considered advisable I could suggest that it is





hardly necessary to wait until the end of the war, adding that
nobody could tell when that would be, but I thought it best to
refer the matter before doing so as, so far as Kuwait is con-
cerned, it matters little whether the change is made now or
later.

4. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

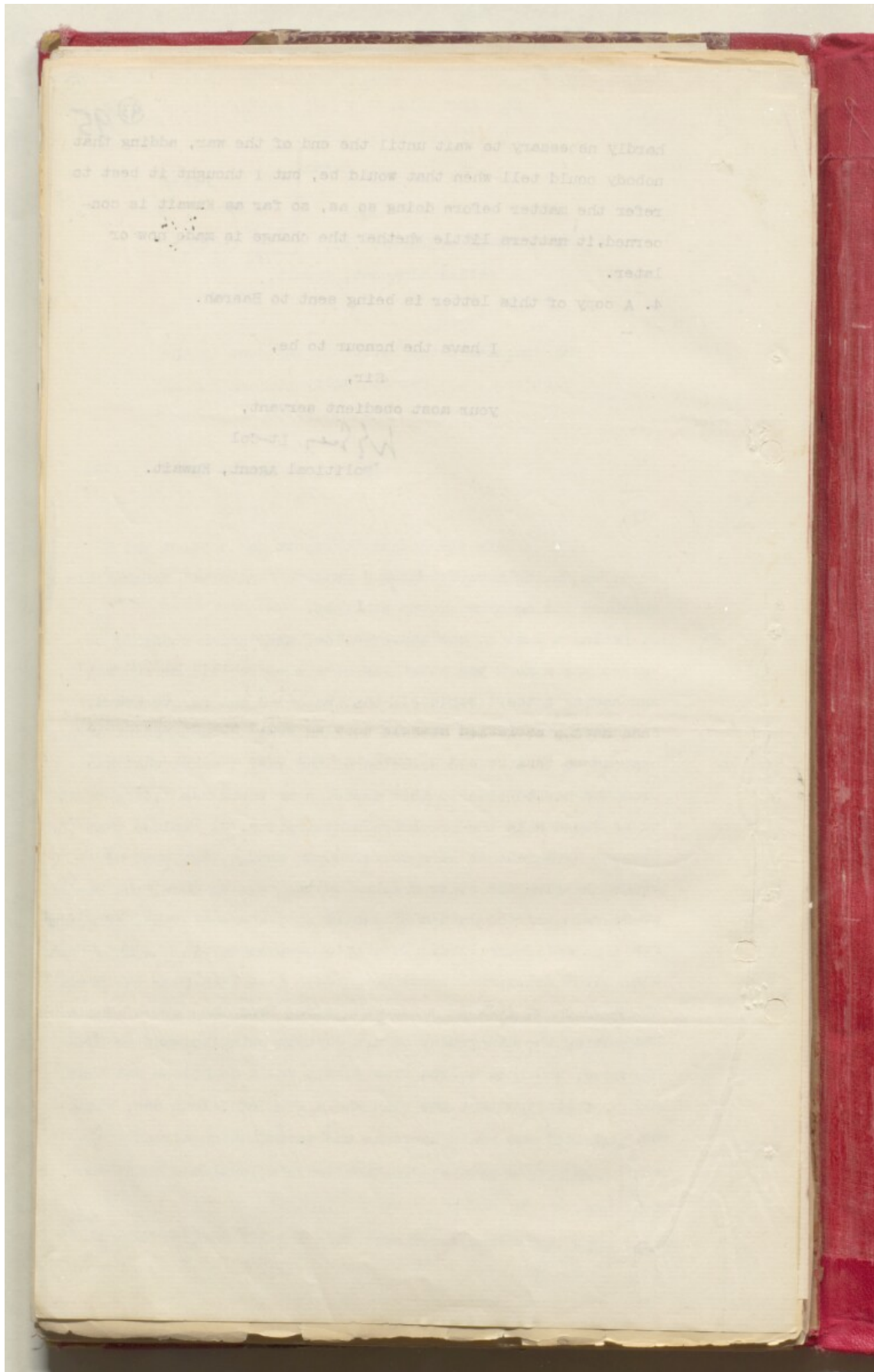
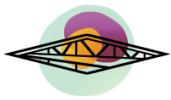
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

W. S. Sney. Lt-Col

Political Agent, Kuwait.





No C2/of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 96

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From Lt-Colonel W.G.Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, the 6th July 1915.

Sir,

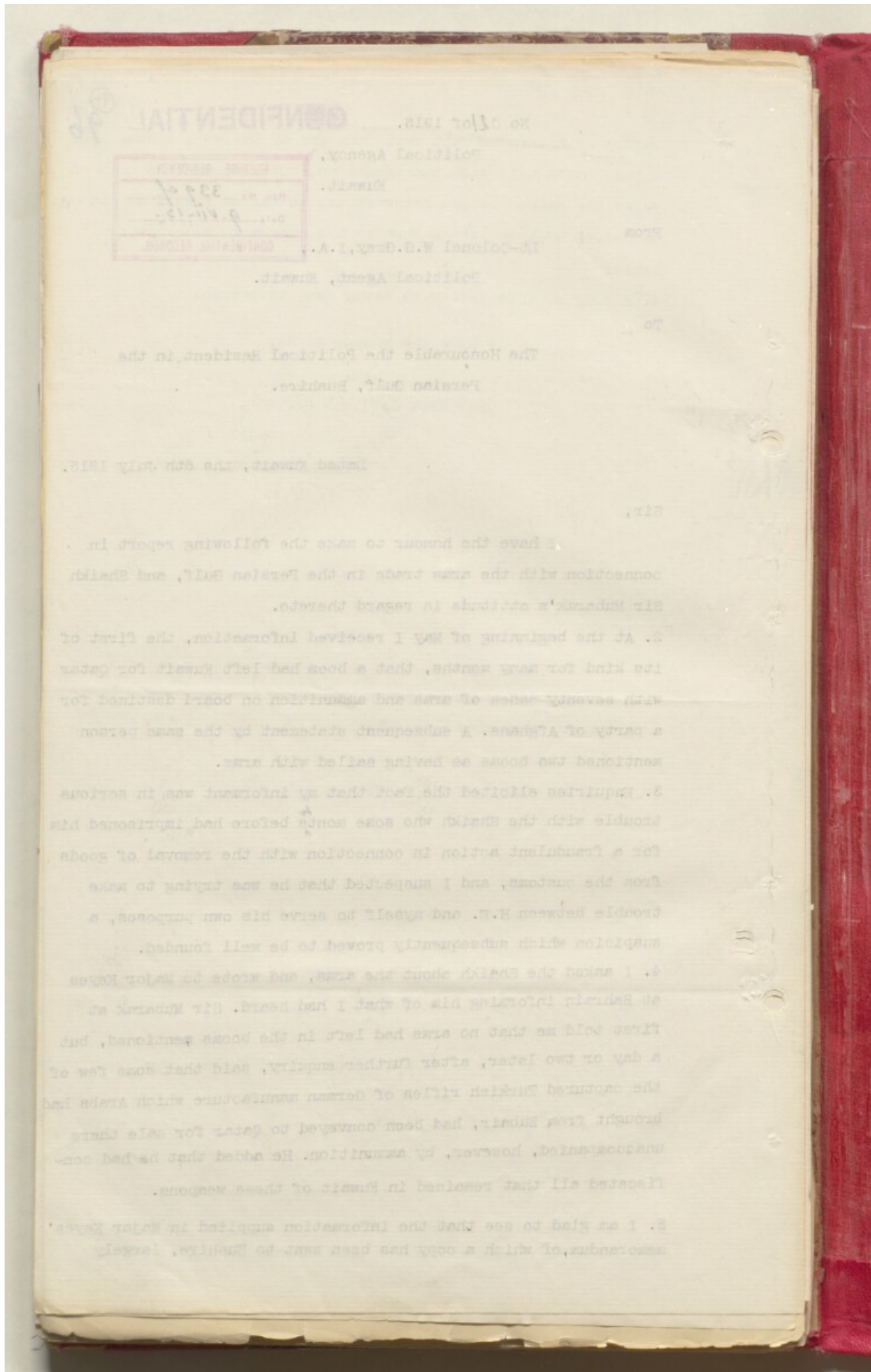
I have the honour to make the following report in connection with the arms trade in the Persian Gulf, and Shaikh Sir Mubarak's attitude in regard thereto.

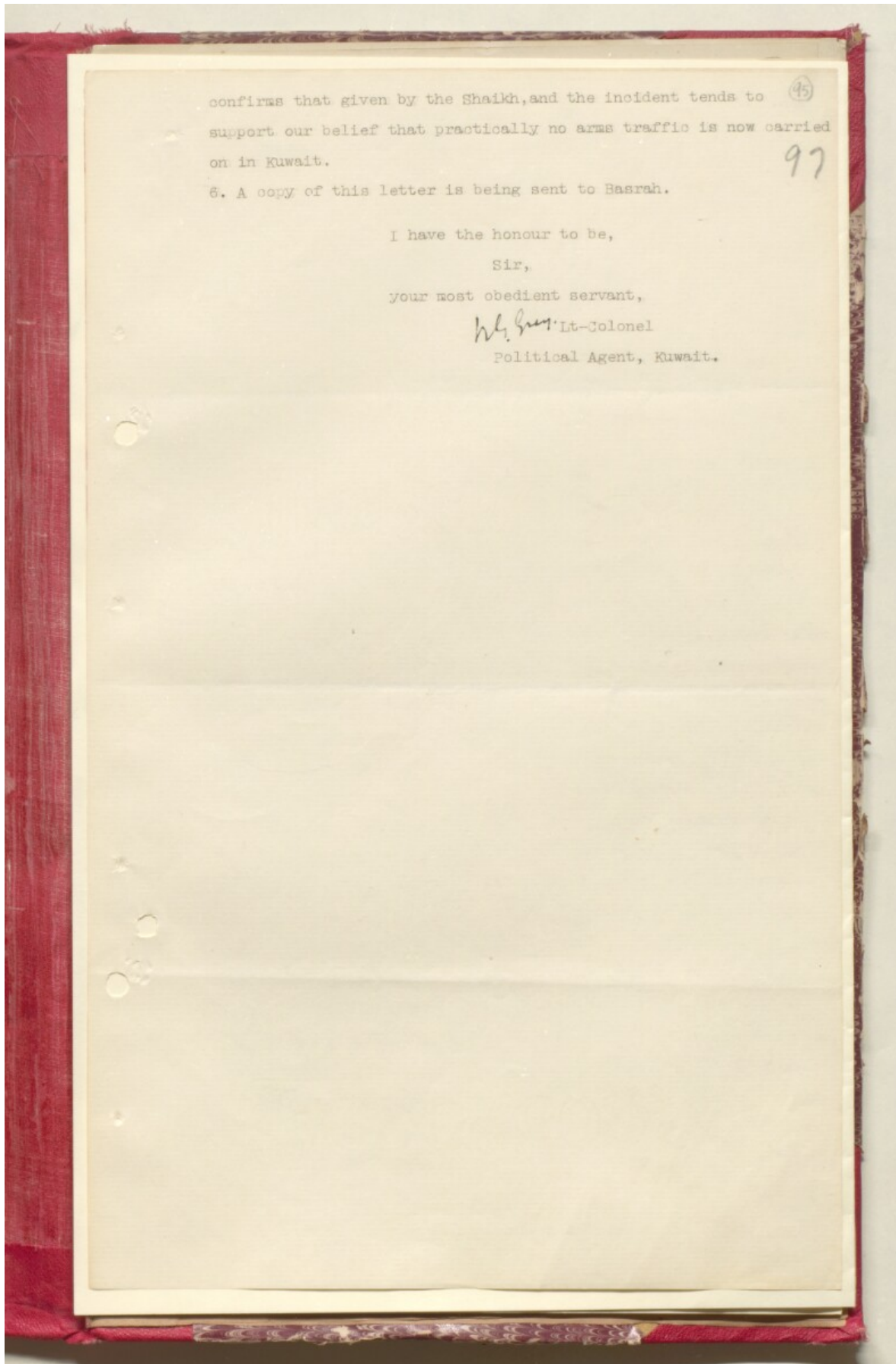
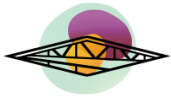
2. At the beginning of May I received information, the first of its kind for many months, that a boom had left Kuwait for Qatar with seventy cases of arms and ammunition on board destined for a party of Afghans. A subsequent statement by the same person mentioned two booms as having sailed with arms.

3. Enquiries elicited the fact that my informant was in serious trouble with the Shaikh who some months before had imprisoned him for a fraudulent action in connection with the removal of goods from the customs, and I suspected that he was trying to make trouble between H.E. and myself to serve his own purposes, a suspicion which subsequently proved to be well founded.

4. I asked the Shaikh about the arms, and wrote to Major Keyes at Bahrain informing him of what I had heard. Sir Mubarak at first told me that no arms had left in the booms mentioned, but a day or two later, after further enquiry, said that some few of the captured Turkish rifles of German manufacture which Arabs had brought from Zubair, had been conveyed to Qatar for sale there unaccompanied, however, by ammunition. He added that he had confiscated all that remained in Kuwait of these weapons.

5. I am glad to see that the information supplied in Major Keyes' memorandum, of which a copy has been sent to Bushire, largely





confirms that given by the Shaikh, and the incident tends to (45)
support our belief that practically no arms traffic is now carried
on in Kuwait. 97

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

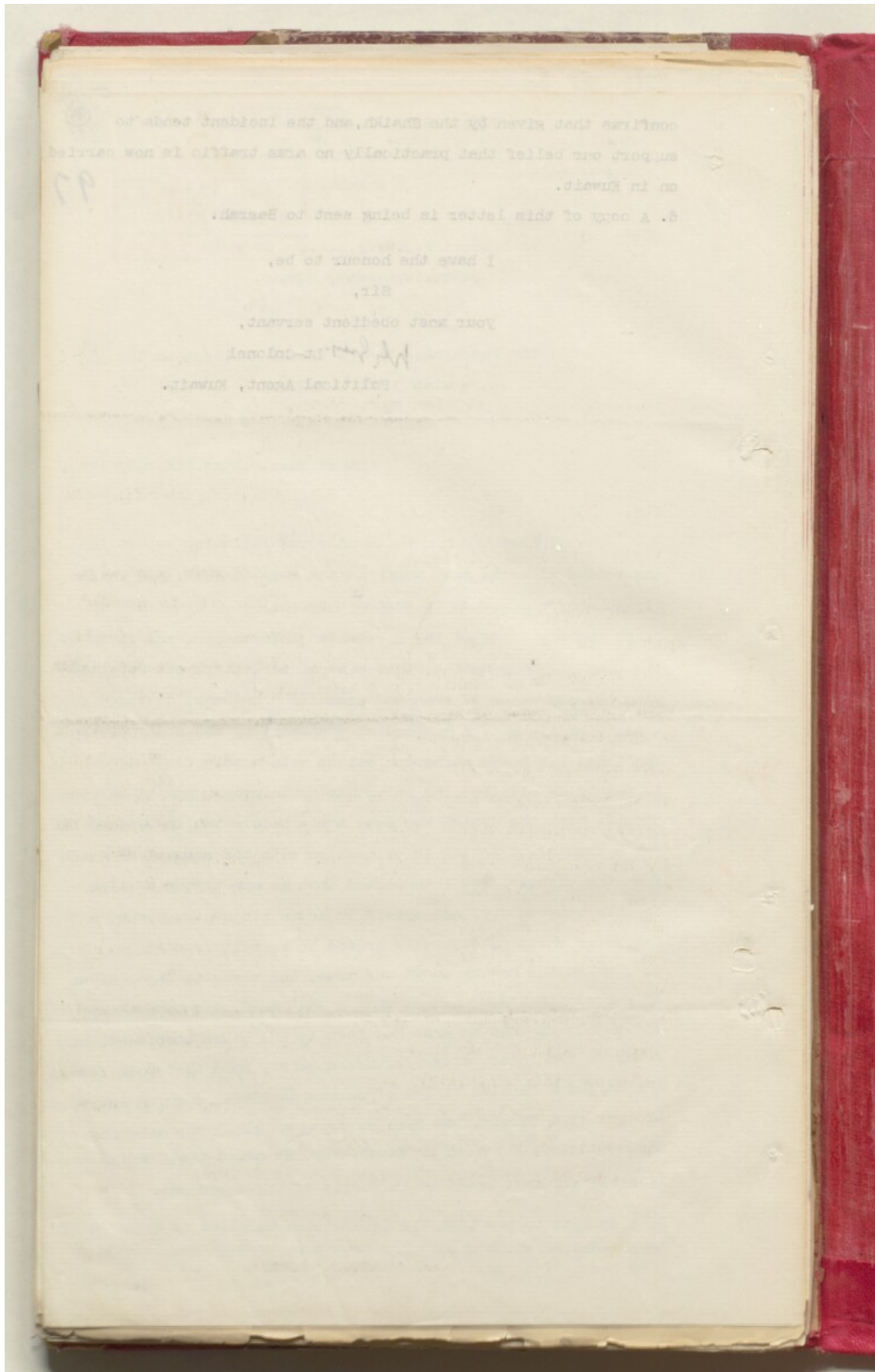
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

your most obedient servant,

W. J. B. S. Lt-Colonel

Political Agent, Kuwait.





No C 24 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 98

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From

Lt-Colonel W.G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To

The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, Bushire.

Dated Kuwait, July 22nd 1915

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of
your telegram No 1433 B dated 17th inst, asking that H.E. the
Shaikh should co-operate in the landing of troops at Bushire by
the despatch of boats from here, and to describe the action taken
in the matter to which it refers.

3. The telegram arrived on the 19th inst, and on the Shaikh being
made aware of its contents he at once ordered the despatch of 30
booms to Bushire as soon as they could be got ready. It was ar-
-ranged that they should leave on the night of the 20th, but the
entire absence of wind prevented their actually getting under
weigh until midday yesterday. I have sent over with the booms
one of the Agency boatmen who has orders to report to Major Tre-
-vor at once on the arrival of the fleet at the Reshire anchor-
-age.

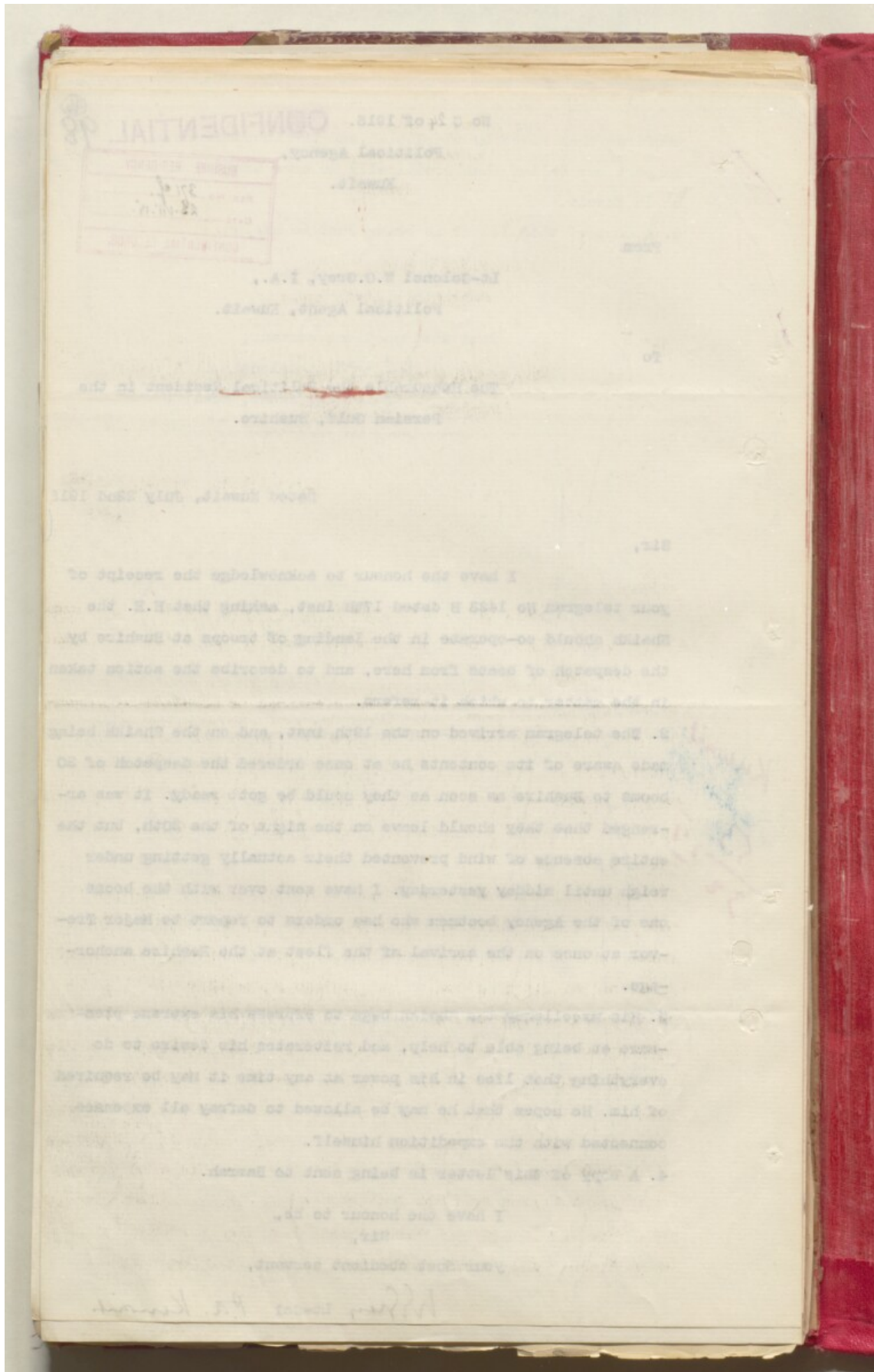
4. His Excellency the Shaikh begs to express his extreme plea-
-sure at being able to help, and reiterates his desire to do
everything that lies in his power at any time it may be required
of him. He hopes that he may be allowed to defray all expenses
connected with the expedition himself.

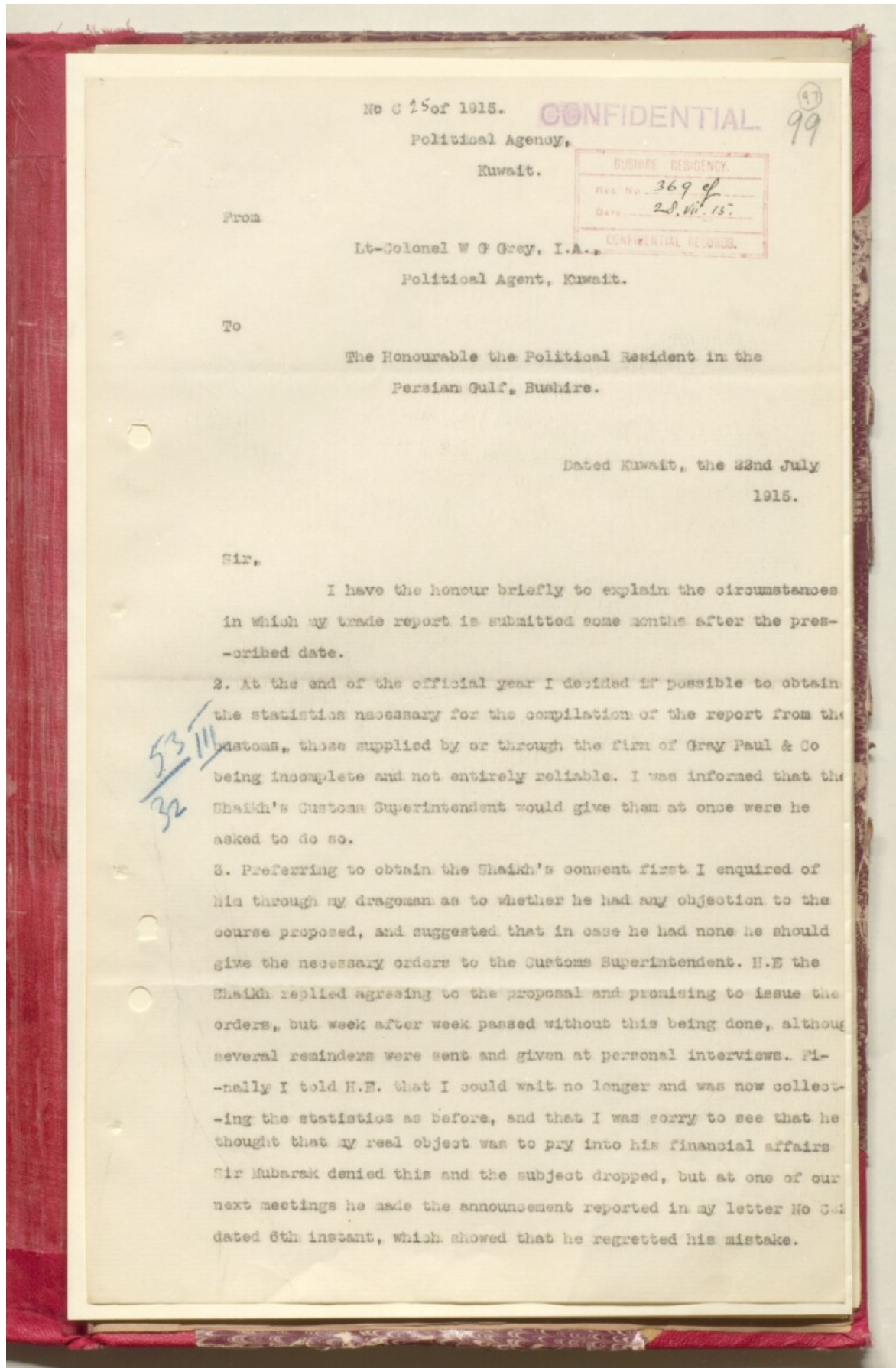
4. A copy of this letter is being sent to Basrah.

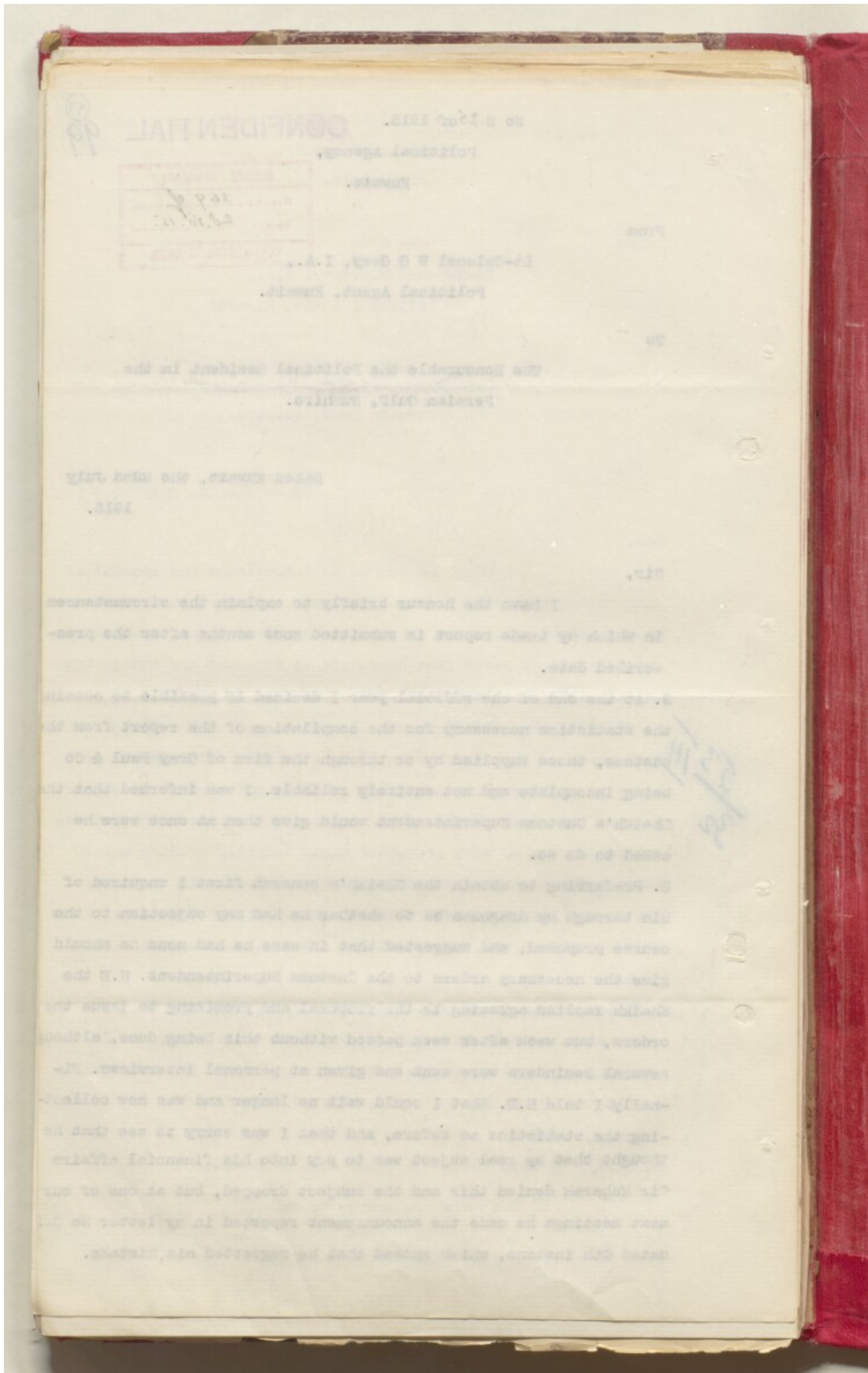
I have the honour to be,
Sir,
your most obedient servant,

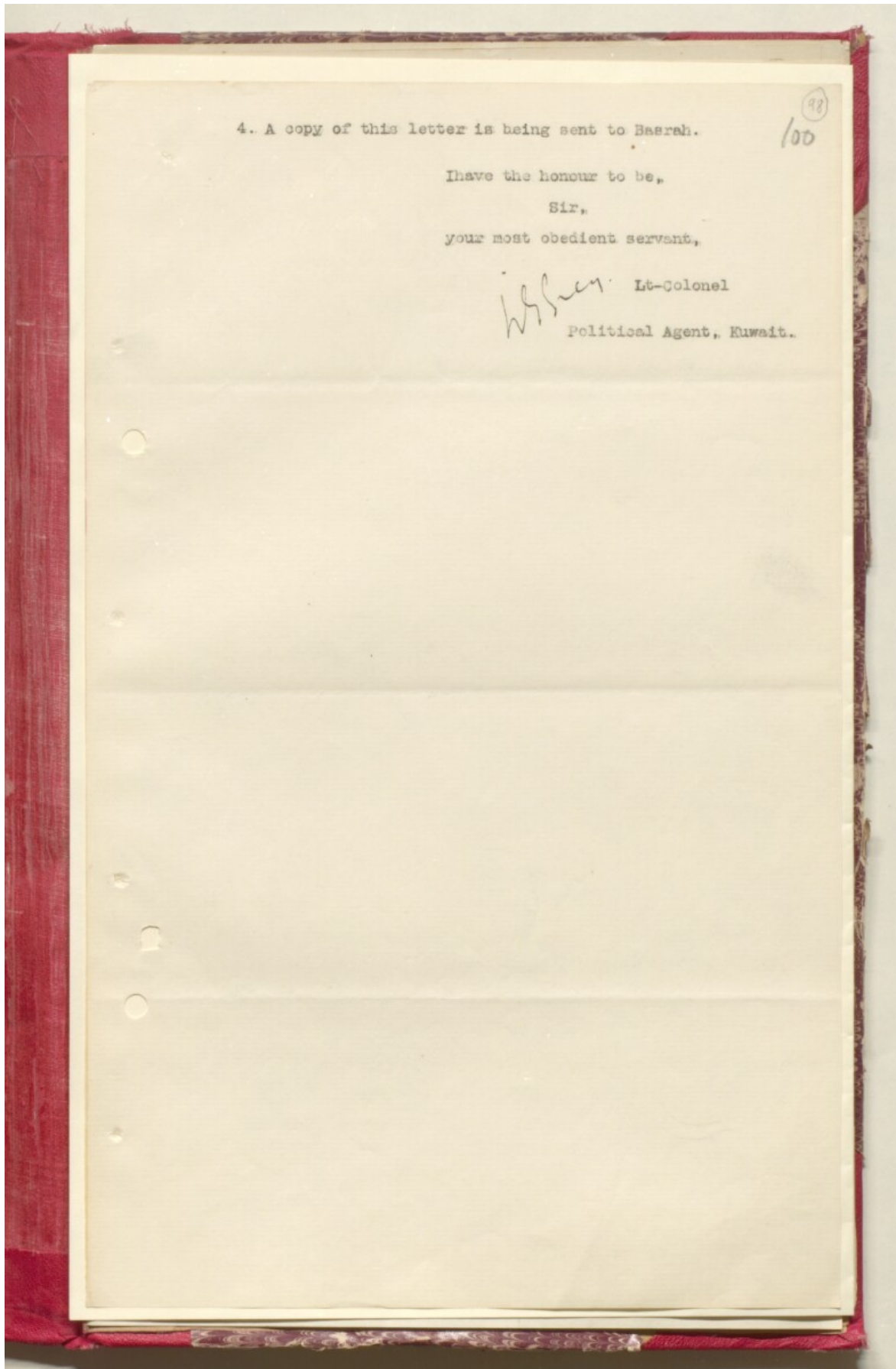
W.G. Grey Lt-Col P.A. Kuwait

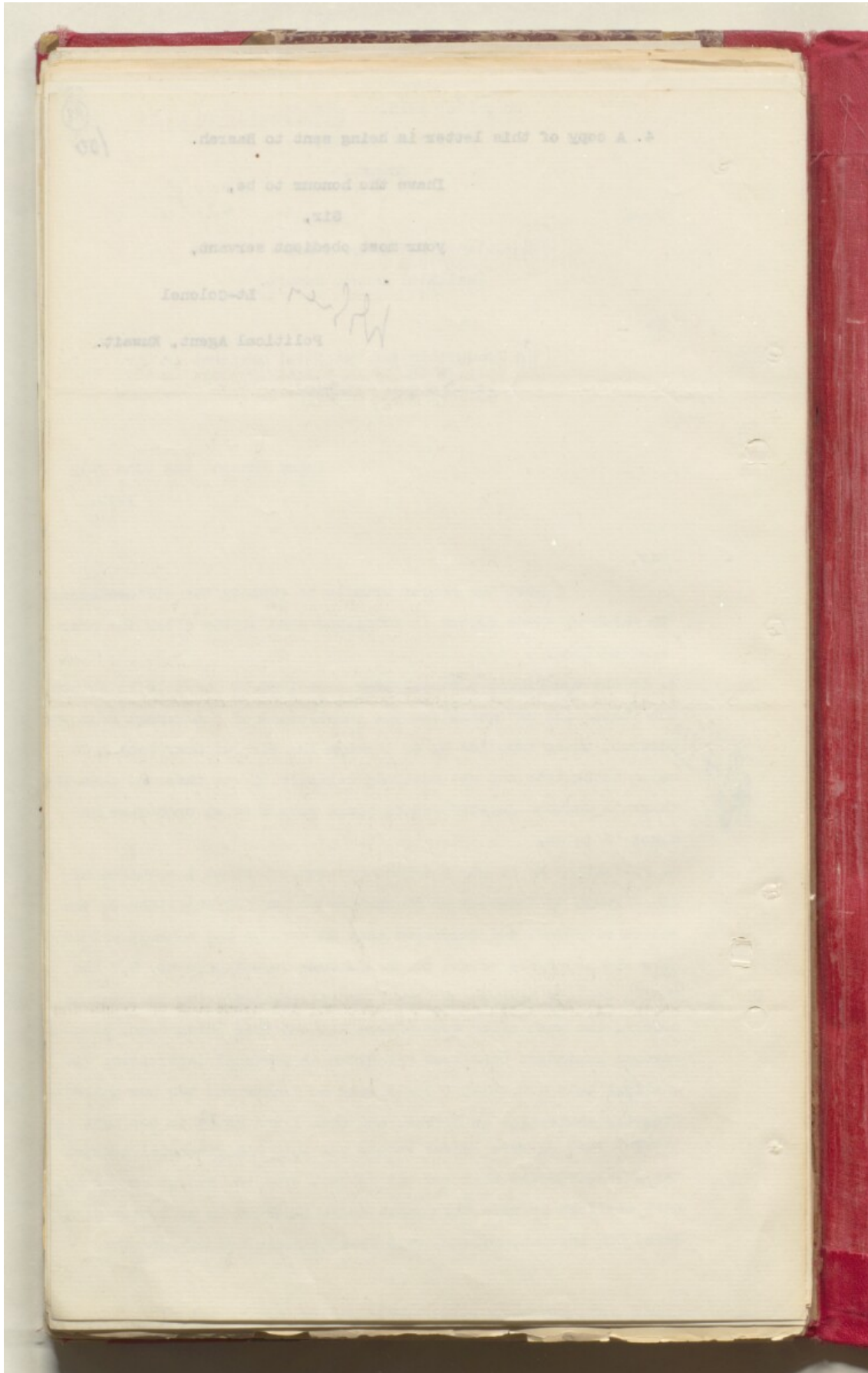
Kuwait
53 53/32













CONFIDENTIAL No. 627 of 1915.
Political Agency
BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Res No. 418 of
Date 2.11.15.
Kuwait CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

From
Lieutenant-Colonel W. G. Grey, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Hon'ble Lieut-Colonel Sir P. S. Cox,
K.C.I.E., C.S.I., I.A.,
Political Resident in the P. Gulf,
Basrah.

Dated Kuwait, the 19th August 1915.

Sir,

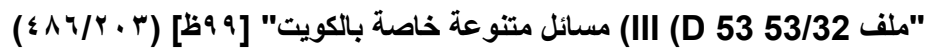
I have the honour to report for the information of the Government of India in the Foreign Department that Shaikh Sir Mubarak bin Subah has repaid in Bombay the second and remaining instalment of the loan of 3 lakhs of rupees which was granted to him in January 1914.

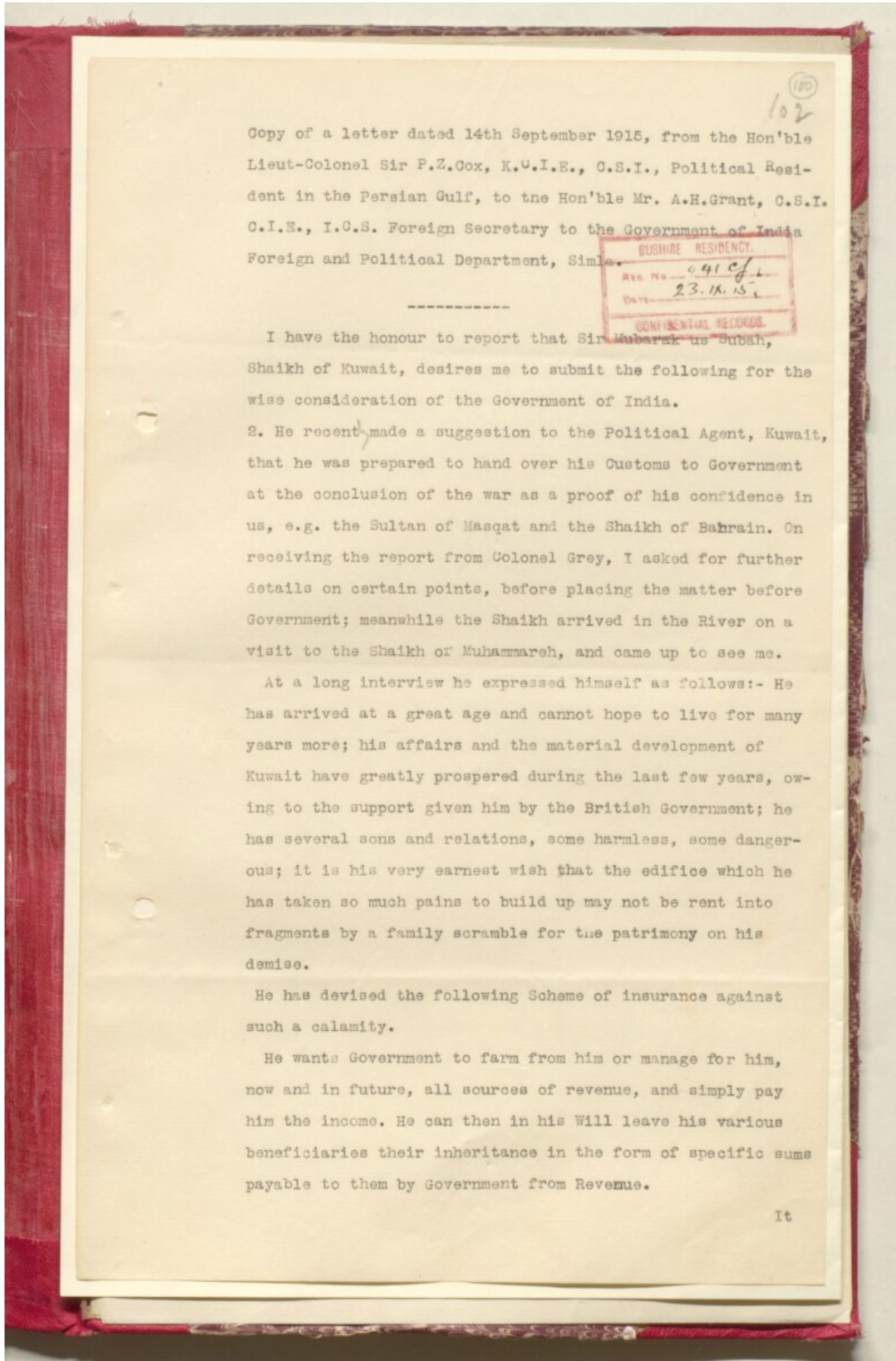
2. Two copies of this letter have been sent to Bushire.

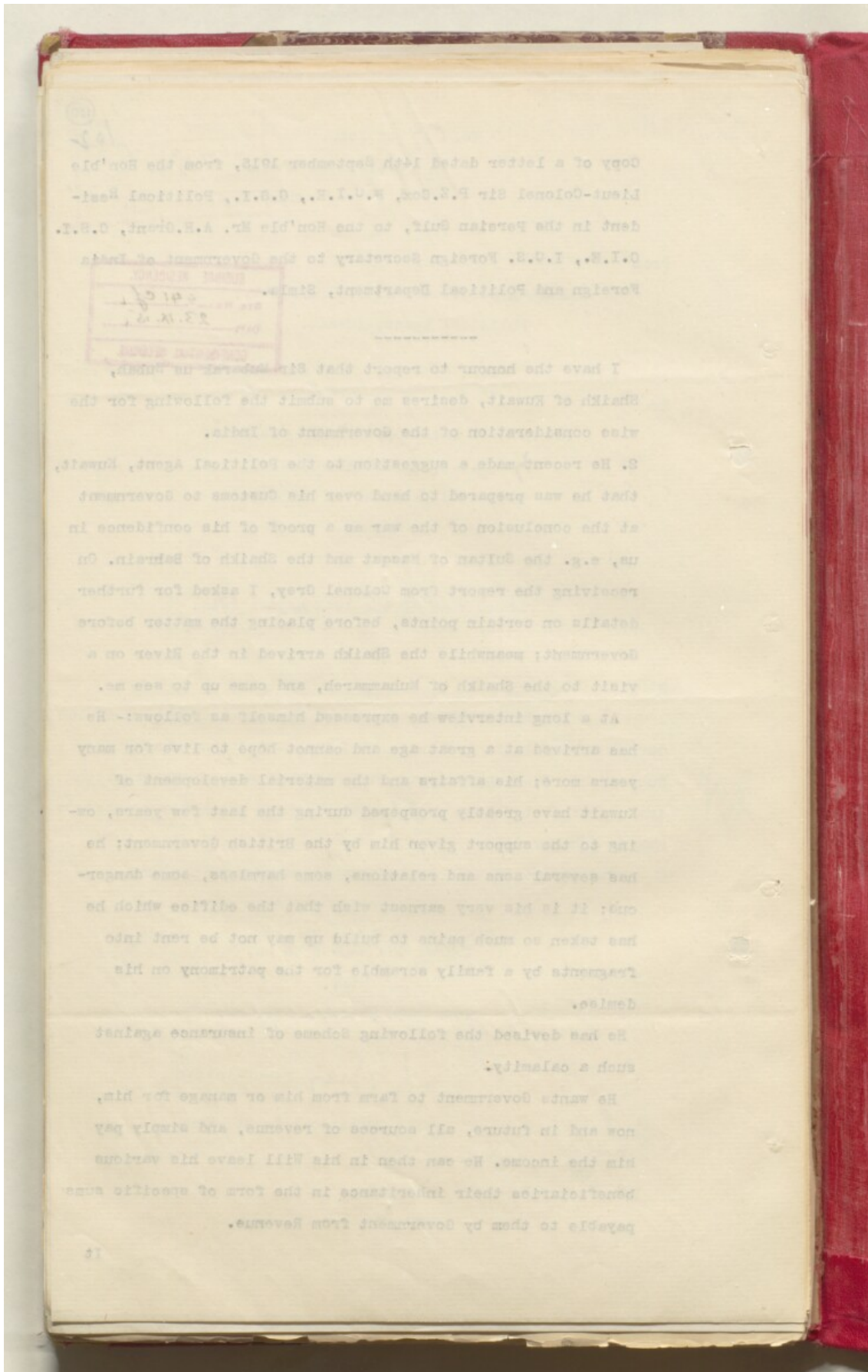
I have the honour to be,
Sir,
Your most obedient servant,

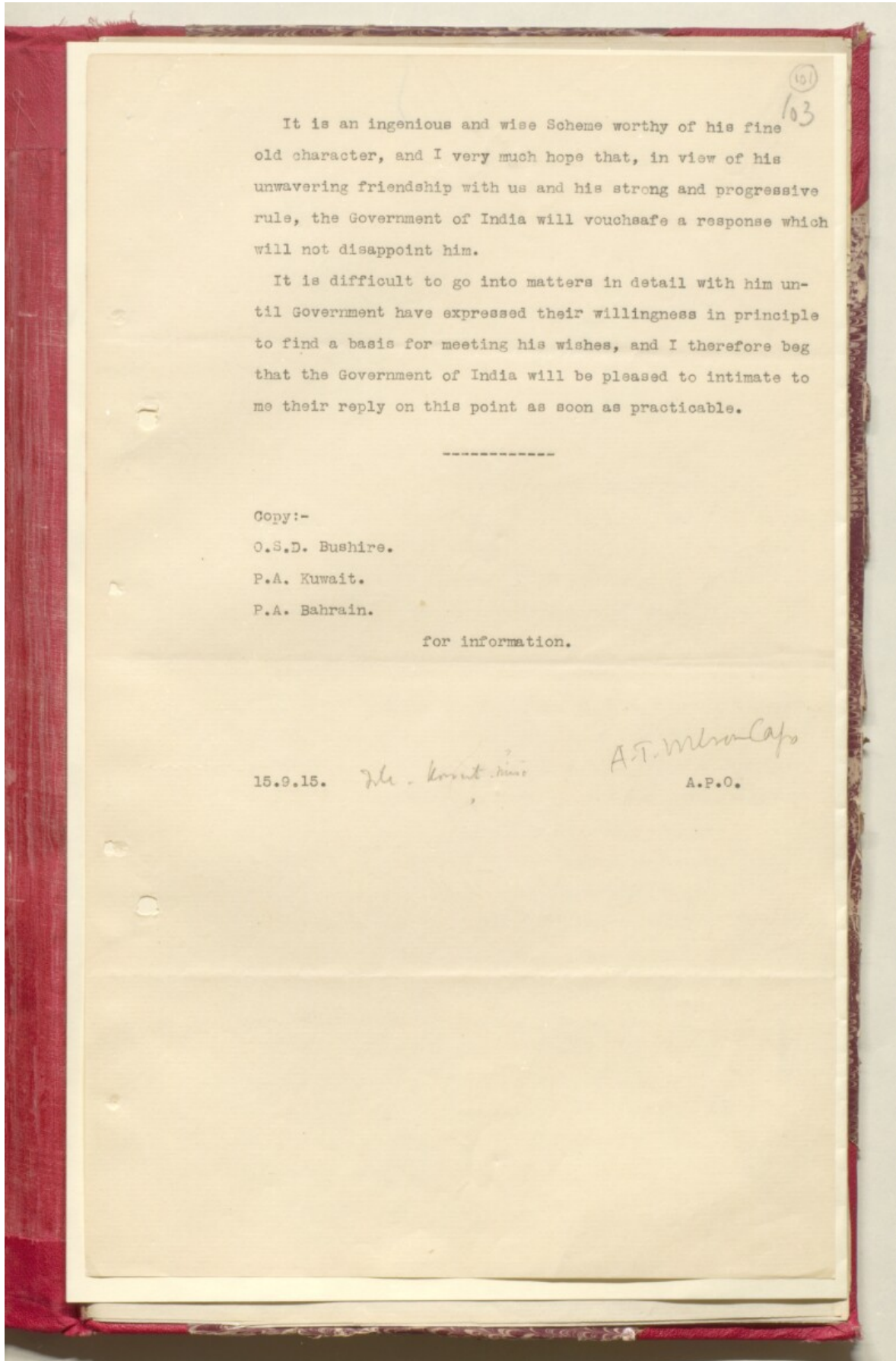
W. G. Grey Lieut-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

File
A









It is an ingenious and wise Scheme worthy of his fine old character, and I very much hope that, in view of his unwavering friendship with us and his strong and progressive rule, the Government of India will vouchsafe a response which will not disappoint him.

It is difficult to go into matters in detail with him until Government have expressed their willingness in principle to find a basis for meeting his wishes, and I therefore beg that the Government of India will be pleased to intimate to me their reply on this point as soon as practicable.

Copy:-

O.S.D. Bushire.

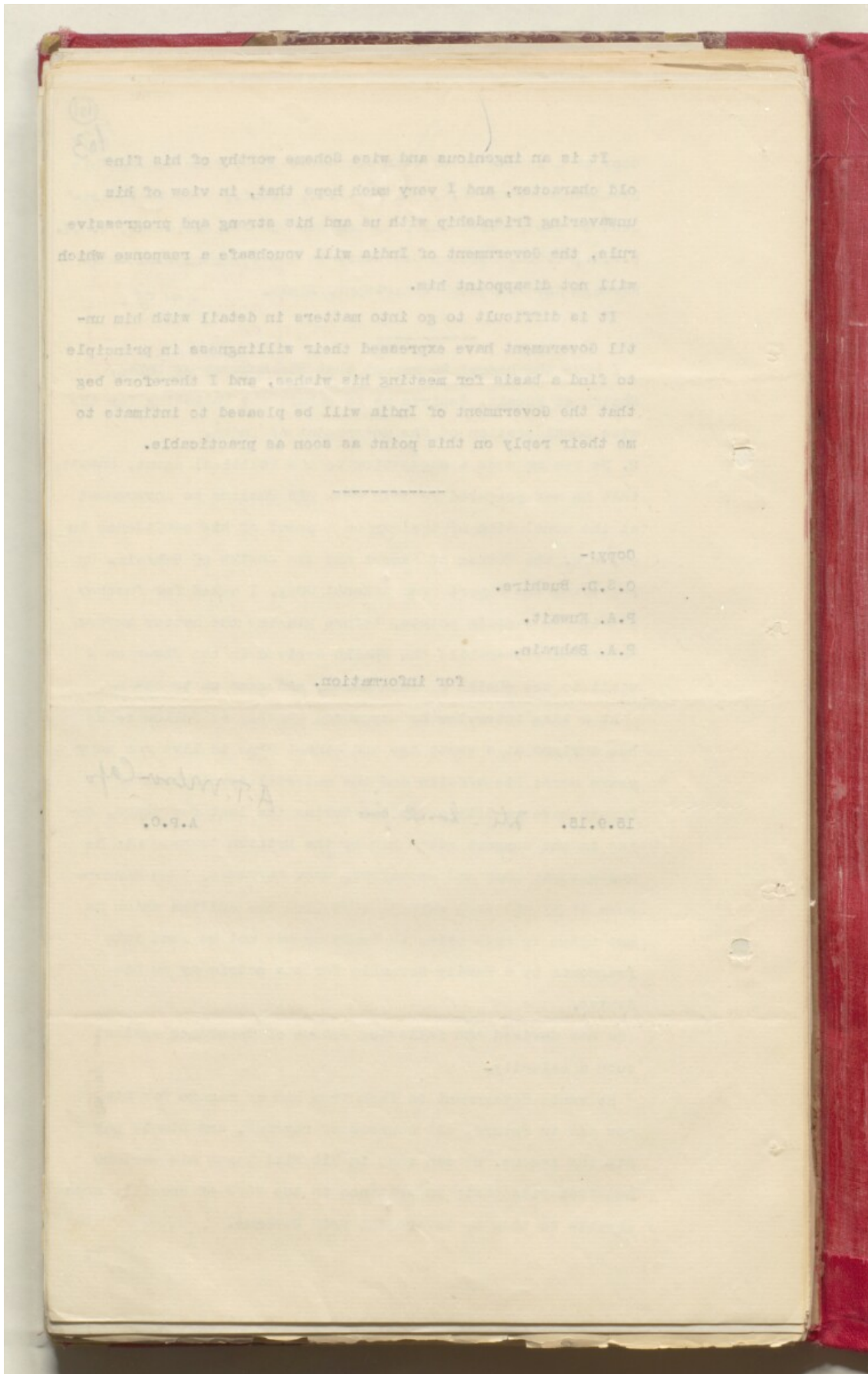
P.A. Kuwait.

P.A. Bahrain.

for information.

15.9.15.

A.P.O.





No C 46 of 1915. **CONFIDENTIAL** 192/104

Political Agency,
Kuwait.

From
Lt-Colonel W.G.Grey, I.A.
Political Agent, Kuwait.

To
The Honourable the Political Resident in the
Persian Gulf, and C.P.O., Basrah.

Dated Kuwait, December 31st, 1915.

Sir,

I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your telegram No 3078 B and to report the steps taken in regard to the purchase of camels.

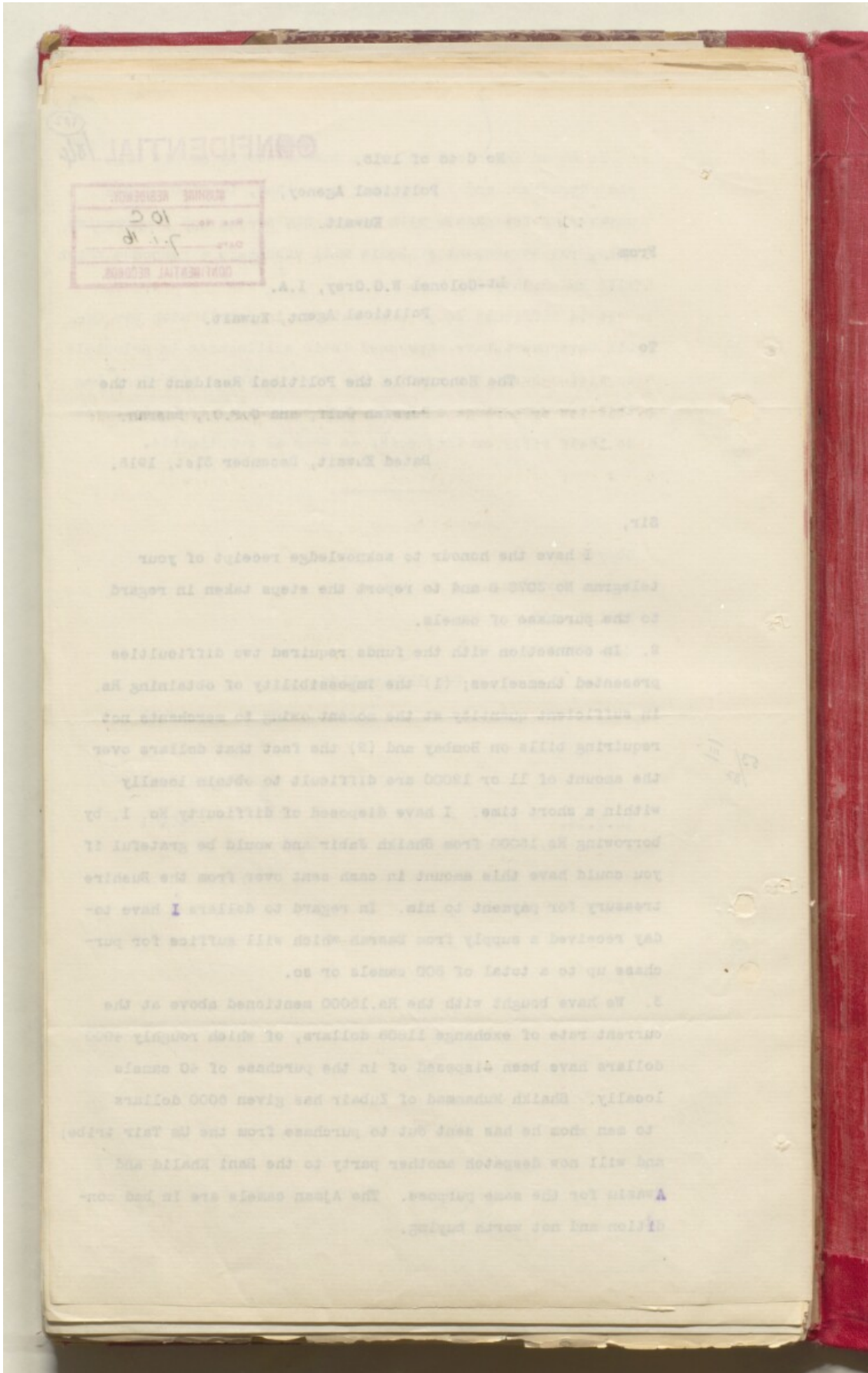
2. In connection with the funds required two difficulties presented themselves; (1) the impossibility of obtaining Rs. in sufficient quantity at the moment owing to merchants not requiring bills on Bombay and (2) the fact that dollars over the amount of 11 or 12000 are difficult to obtain locally within a short time. I have disposed of difficulty No. 1. by borrowing Rs.15000 from Shaikh Jabir and would be grateful if you could have this amount in cash sent over from the Bushire treasury for payment to him. In regard to dollars I have today received a supply from Basrah which will suffice for purchase up to a total of 500 camels or so.

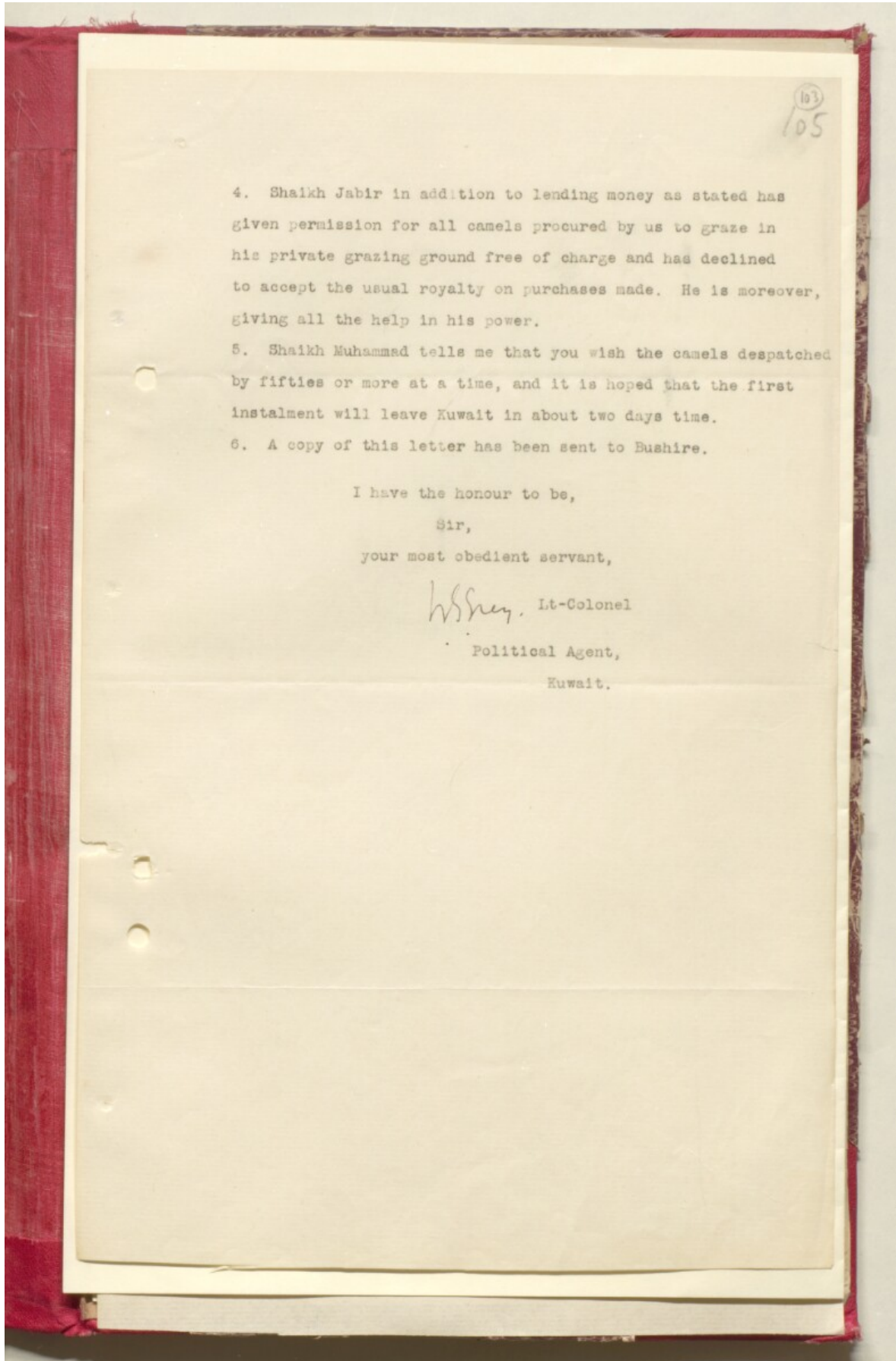
3. We have bought with the Rs.15000 mentioned above at the current rate of exchange 11808 dollars, of which roughly 4000 dollars have been disposed of in the purchase of 40 camels locally. Shaikh Muhammad of Zubair has given 6000 dollars to men whom he has sent out to purchase from the Um Tair tribe; and will now despatch another party to the Bani Khalid and Awazim for the same purpose. The Ajman camels are in bad condition and not worth buying.

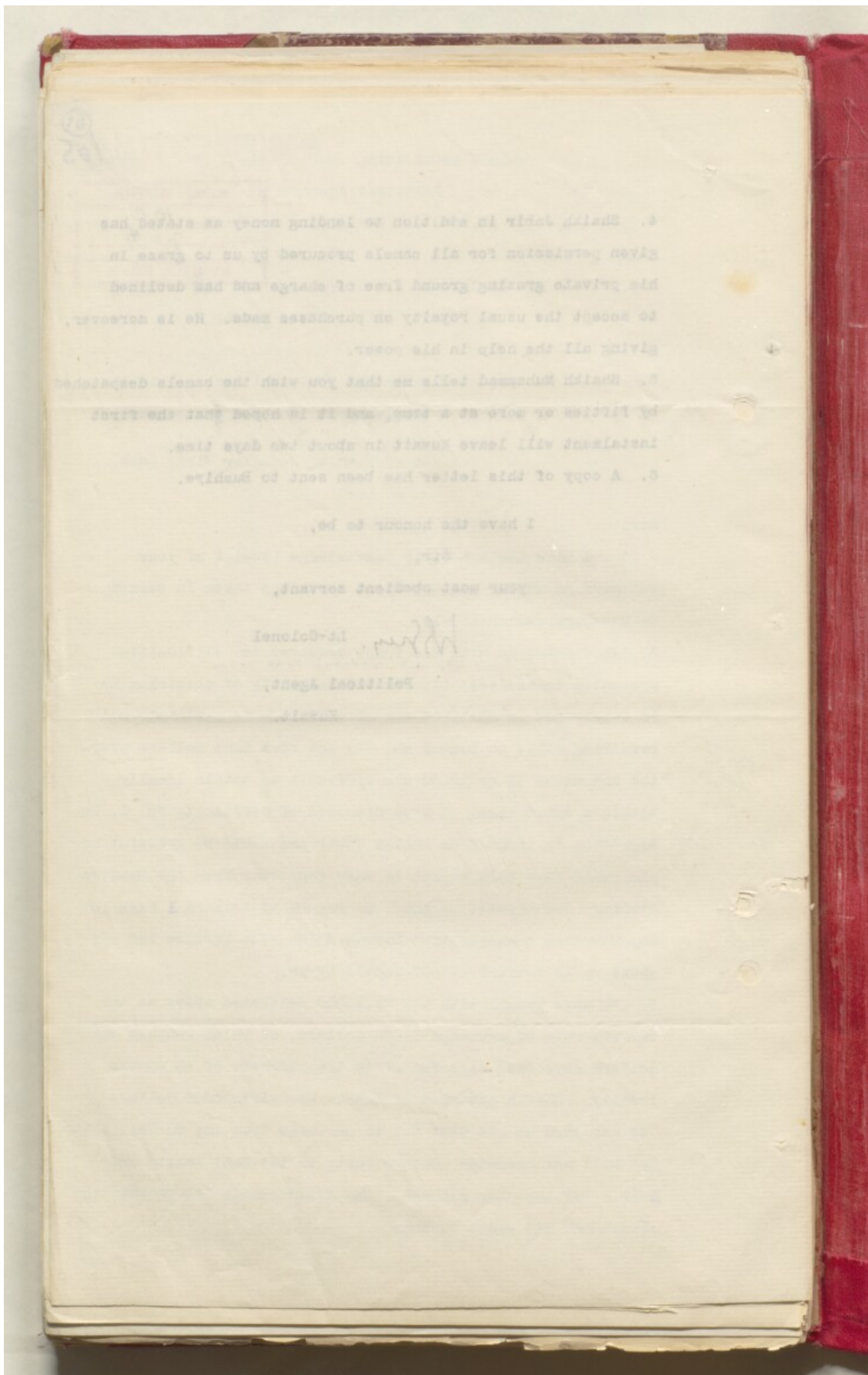
53/32 III

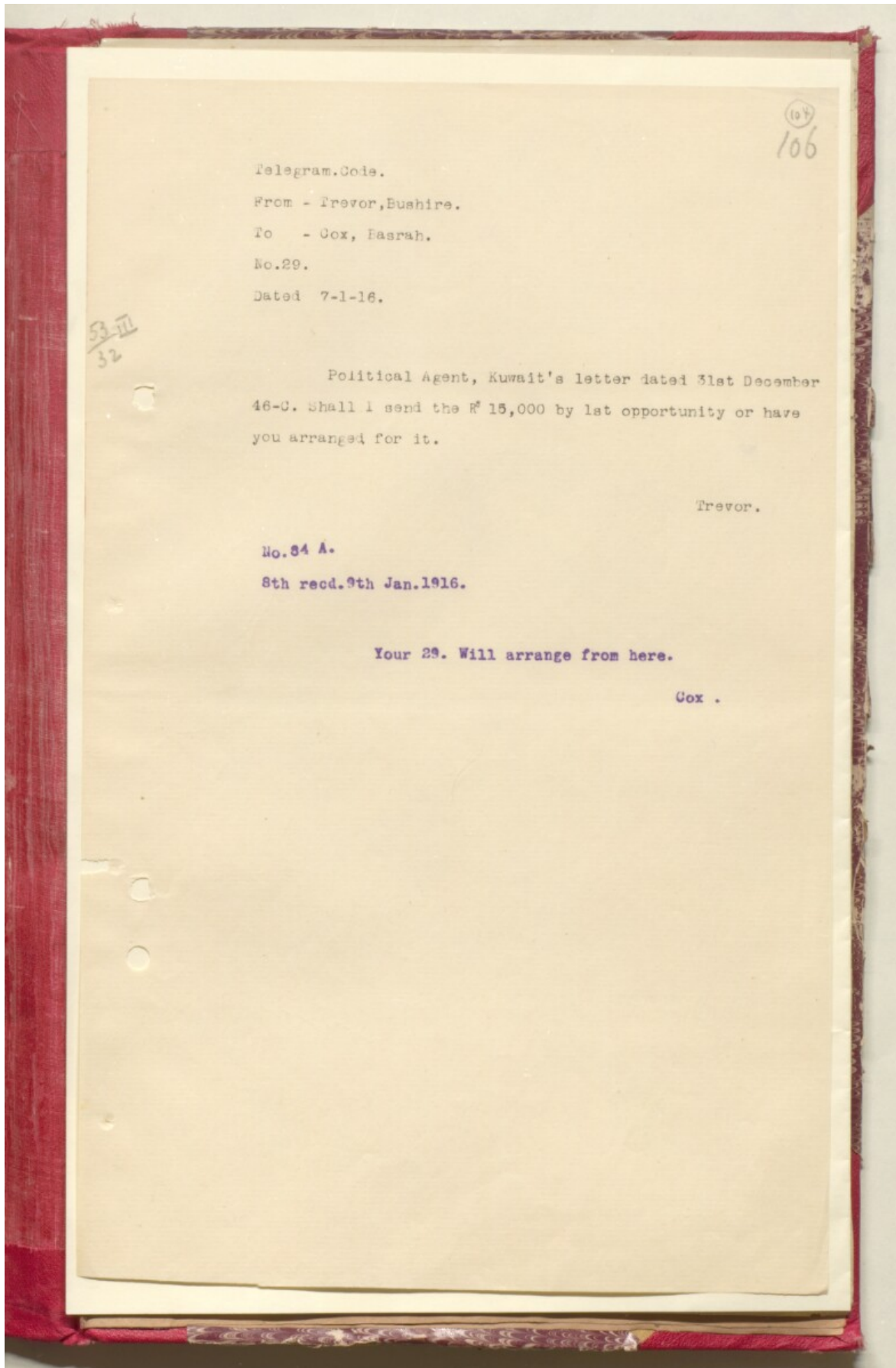


"ملف 53/32 D III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [١٠٢ ظ] (٤٨٦/٢٠٩)









Telegram.Code.

From - Trevor,Bushire.

To - Cox, Basrah.

No.29.

Dated 7-1-16.

Political Agent, Kuwait's letter dated 31st December
1915. Shall I send the £ 15,000 by 1st opportunity or have
you arranged for it.

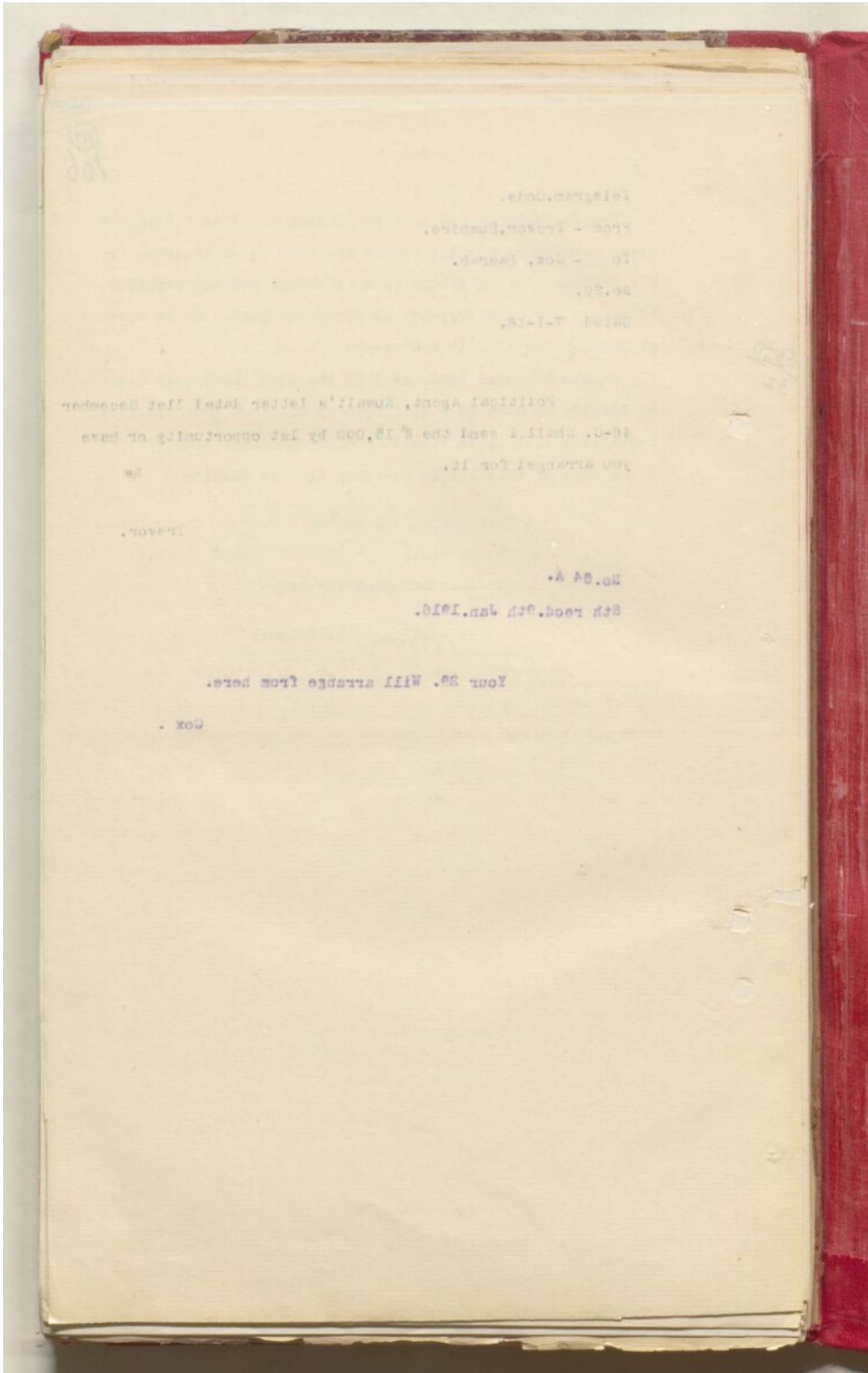
Trevor.

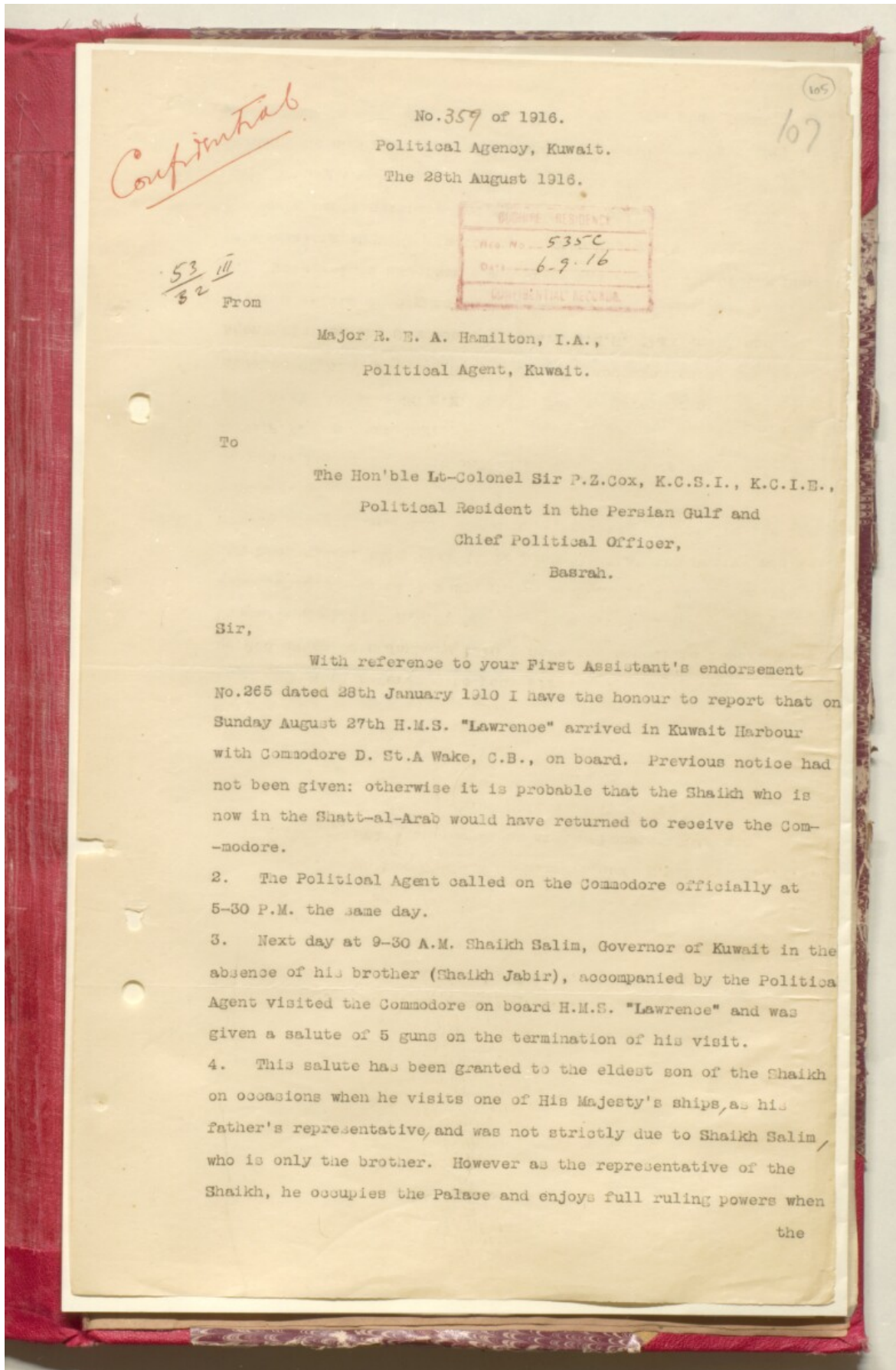
No.34 A.

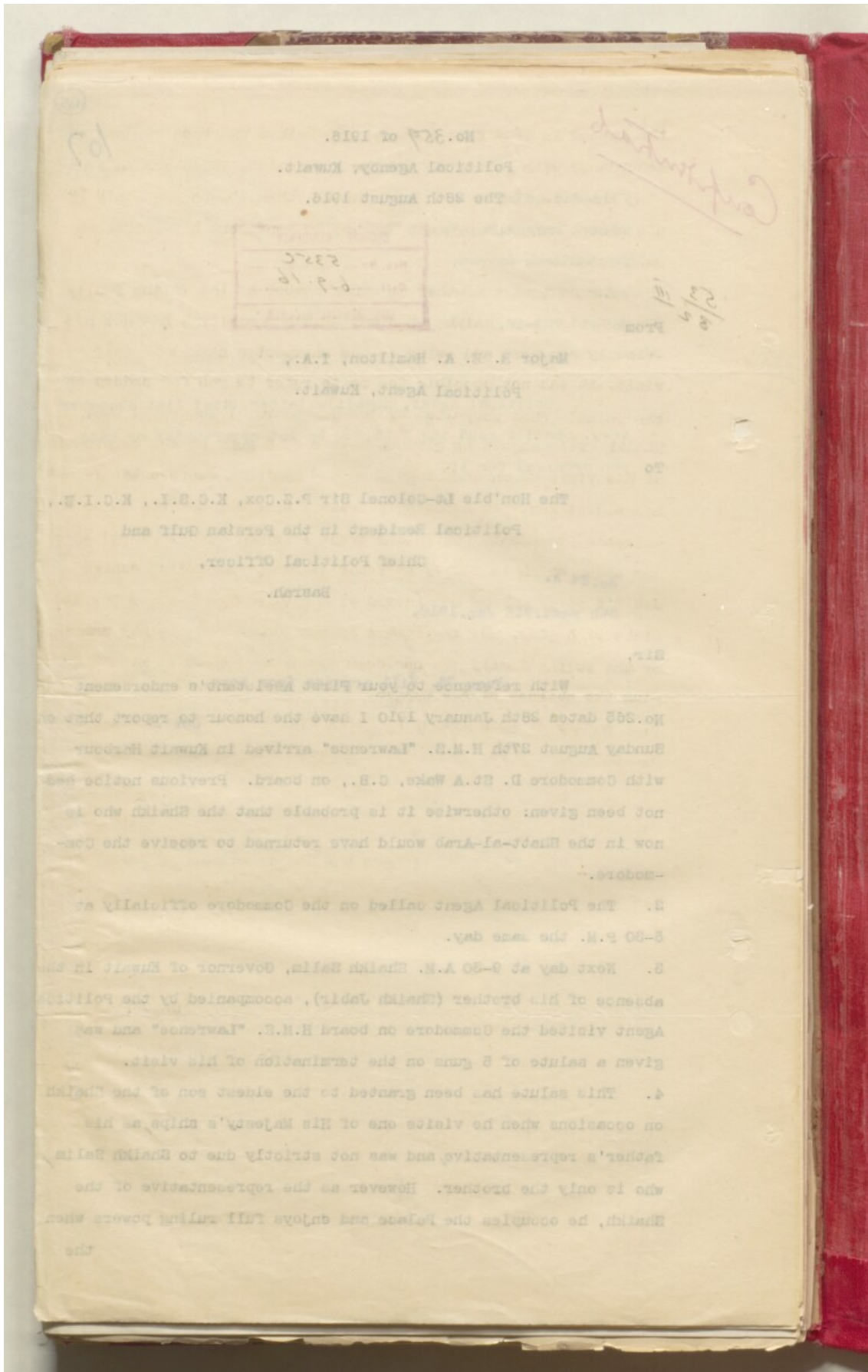
8th recd. 9th Jan. 1916.

Your 29. Will arrange from here.

Cox .









106
98
the latter is away from Kuwait. The salute was thus perhaps in accordance with the spirit of the regulation, which was made during the life time of the late Shaikh, when it was customary for his eldest son, the present Shaikh, to represent his father on such occasions.

5. The case of a brother or other member of the ruling family representing the Shaikh, when out of his dominions, has not previously occurred and owing to the unexpected nature of this visit, it was not possible for me to refer to you for orders on the point. When consulted by the Commodore, I suggested that Shaikh Salim should be given a salute of 5 guns at the termination of his visit as on occasions when the Shaikh's representative was his eldest son. In so doing I trust I have not created an undesirable precedent, but in any event I venture to recommend that the case, which is likely to recur at intervals during Shaikh Jabir's reign may be considered with a view to extending the salute of 5 guns, now receivable by the eldest son, to any member of the ruling family who has been appointed regent of Kuwait during the absence of the Shaikh.

6. A copy of this letter is being sent to the Deputy Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.

I am, Sir, Sir,

I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

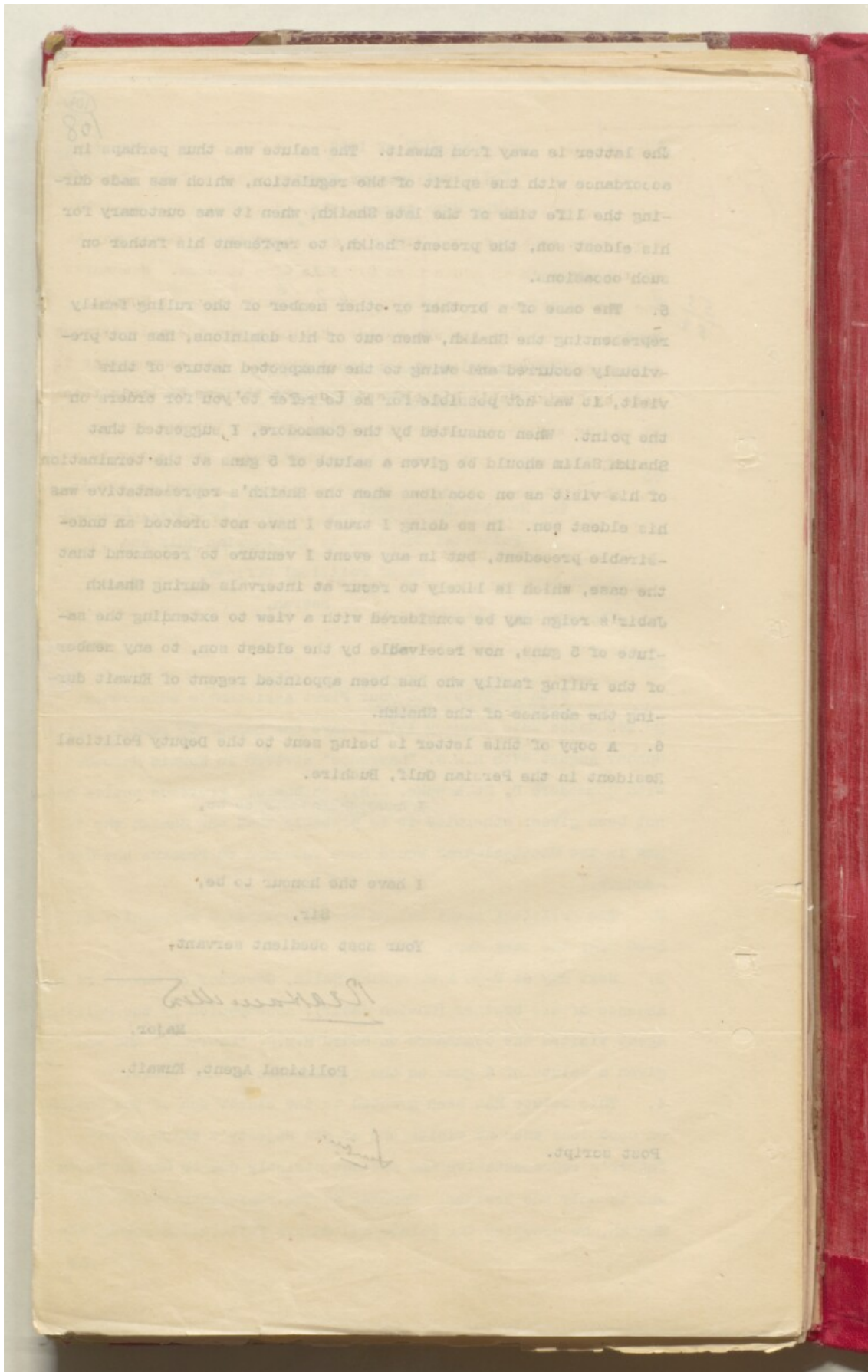
R. A. H. H. H.

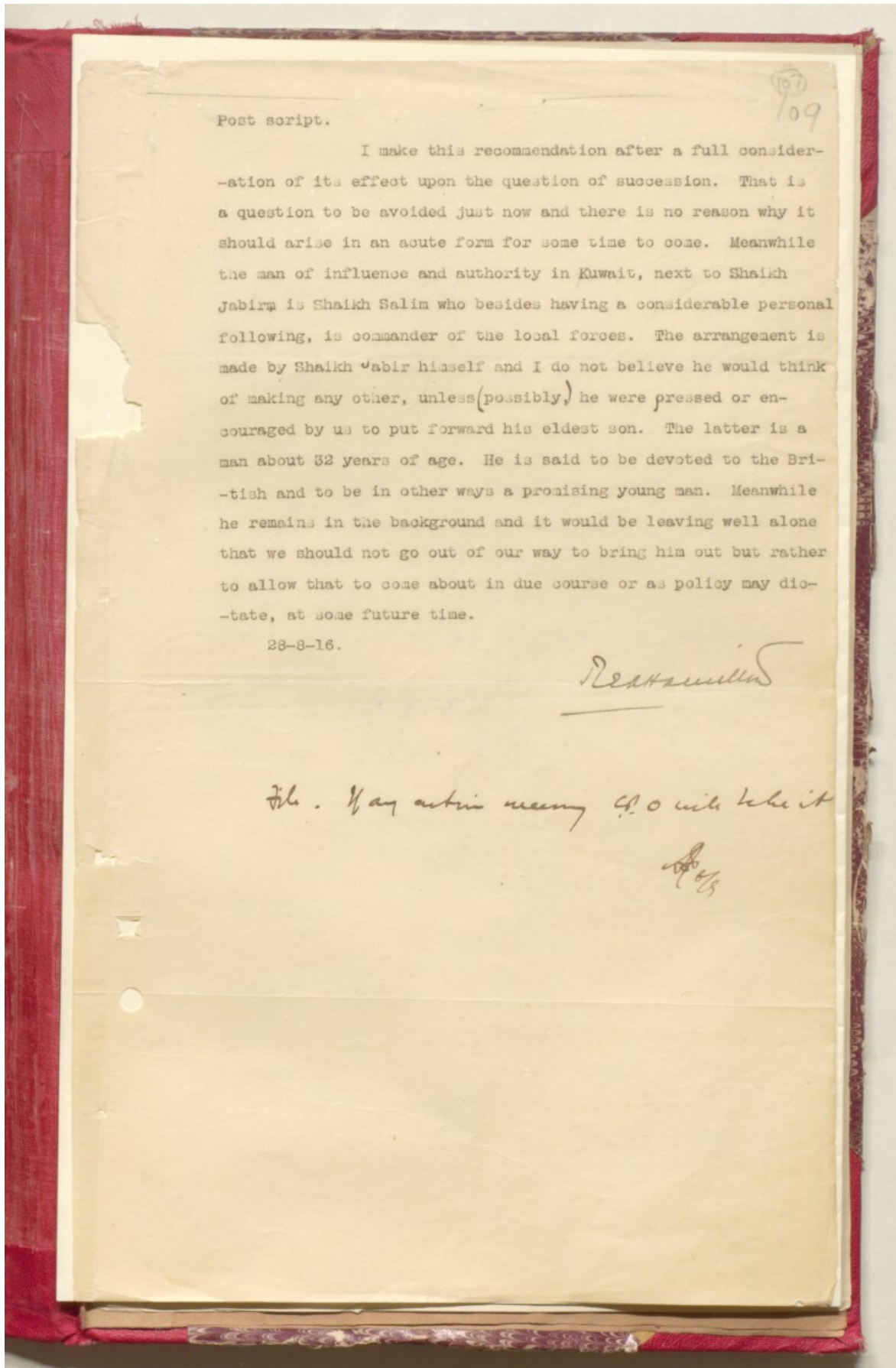
Major,

Political Agent, Kuwait.

Post script.

Salim





Post script.

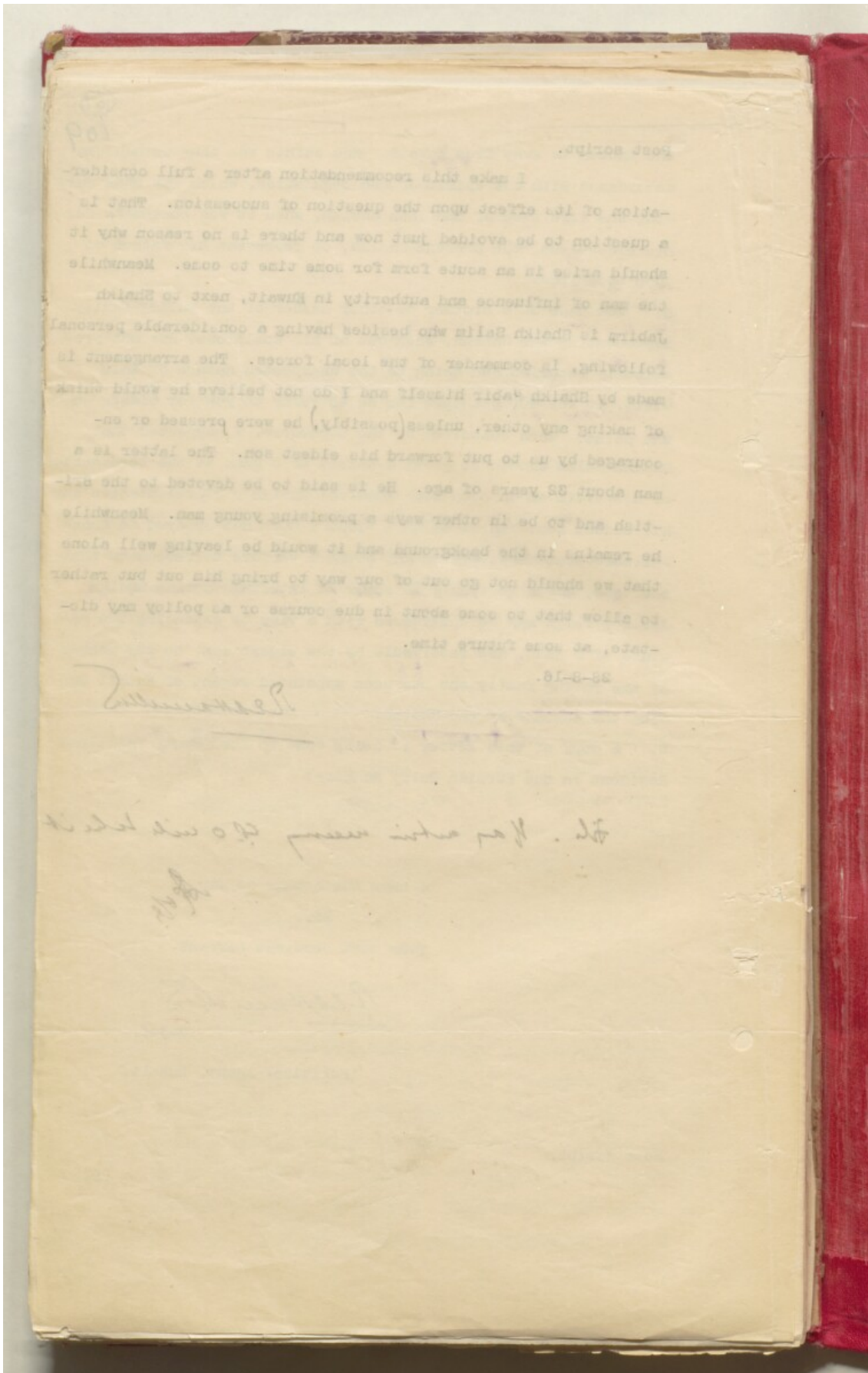
I make this recommendation after a full consideration of its effect upon the question of succession. That is a question to be avoided just now and there is no reason why it should arise in an acute form for some time to come. Meanwhile the man of influence and authority in Kuwait, next to Shaikh Jabir is Shaikh Salim who besides having a considerable personal following, is commander of the local forces. The arrangement is made by Shaikh Jabir himself and I do not believe he would think of making any other, unless (possibly) he were pressed or encouraged by us to put forward his eldest son. The latter is a man about 32 years of age. He is said to be devoted to the British and to be in other ways a promising young man. Meanwhile he remains in the background and it would be leaving well alone that we should not go out of our way to bring him out but rather to allow that to come about in due course or as policy may dictate, at some future time.

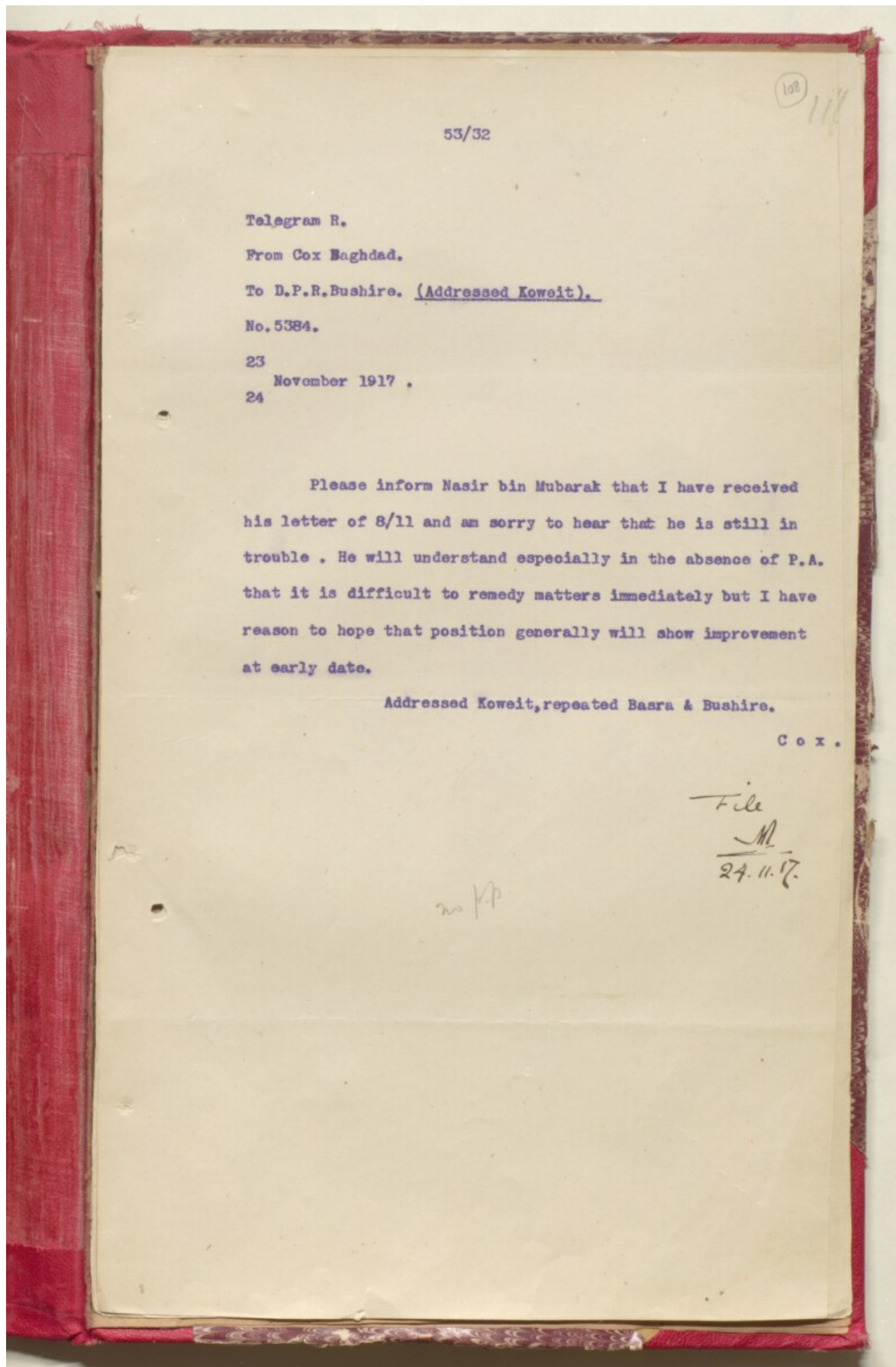
28-8-16.

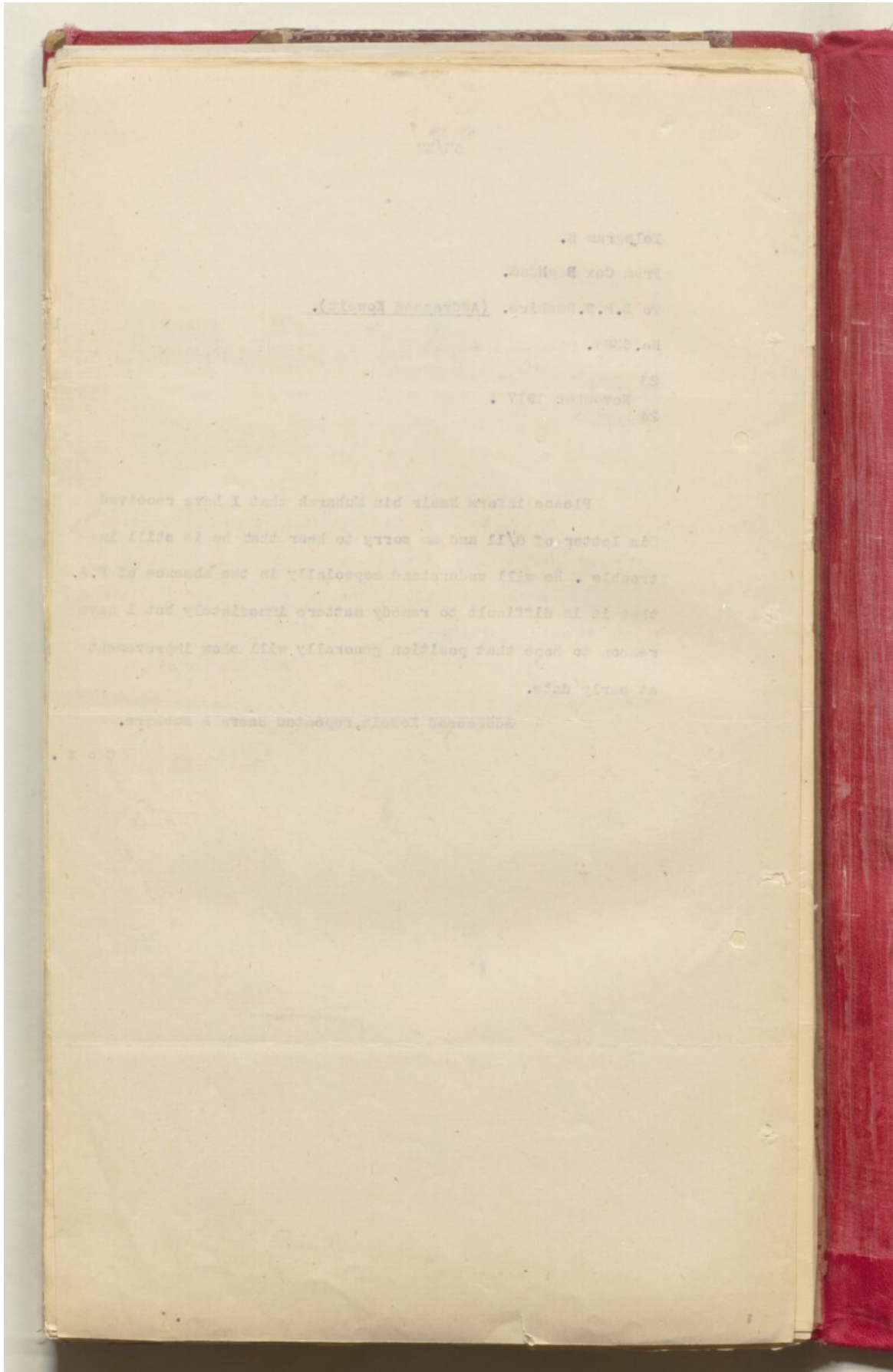
Reasumell

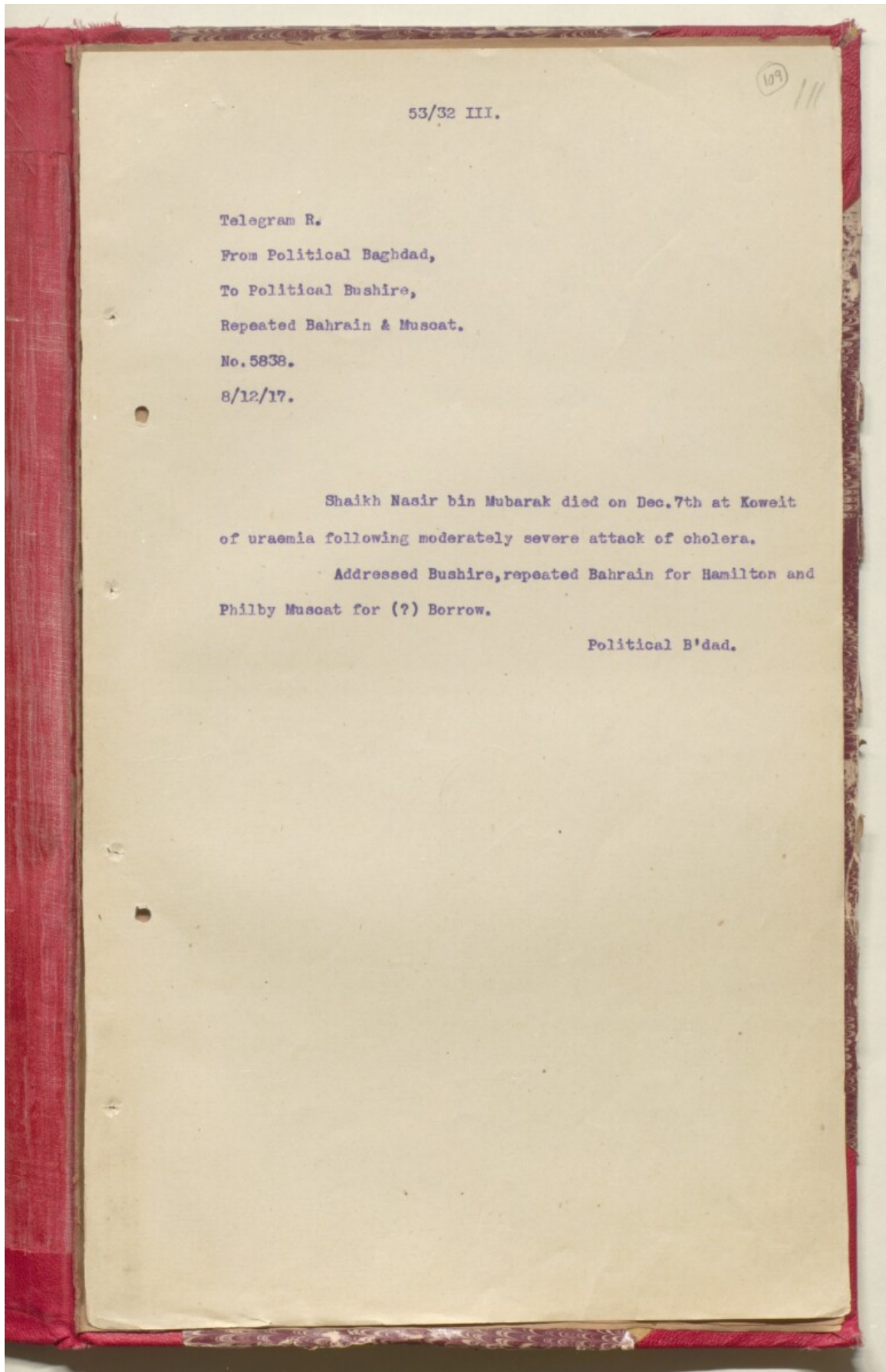
File. If any action necessary 400 will take it

400









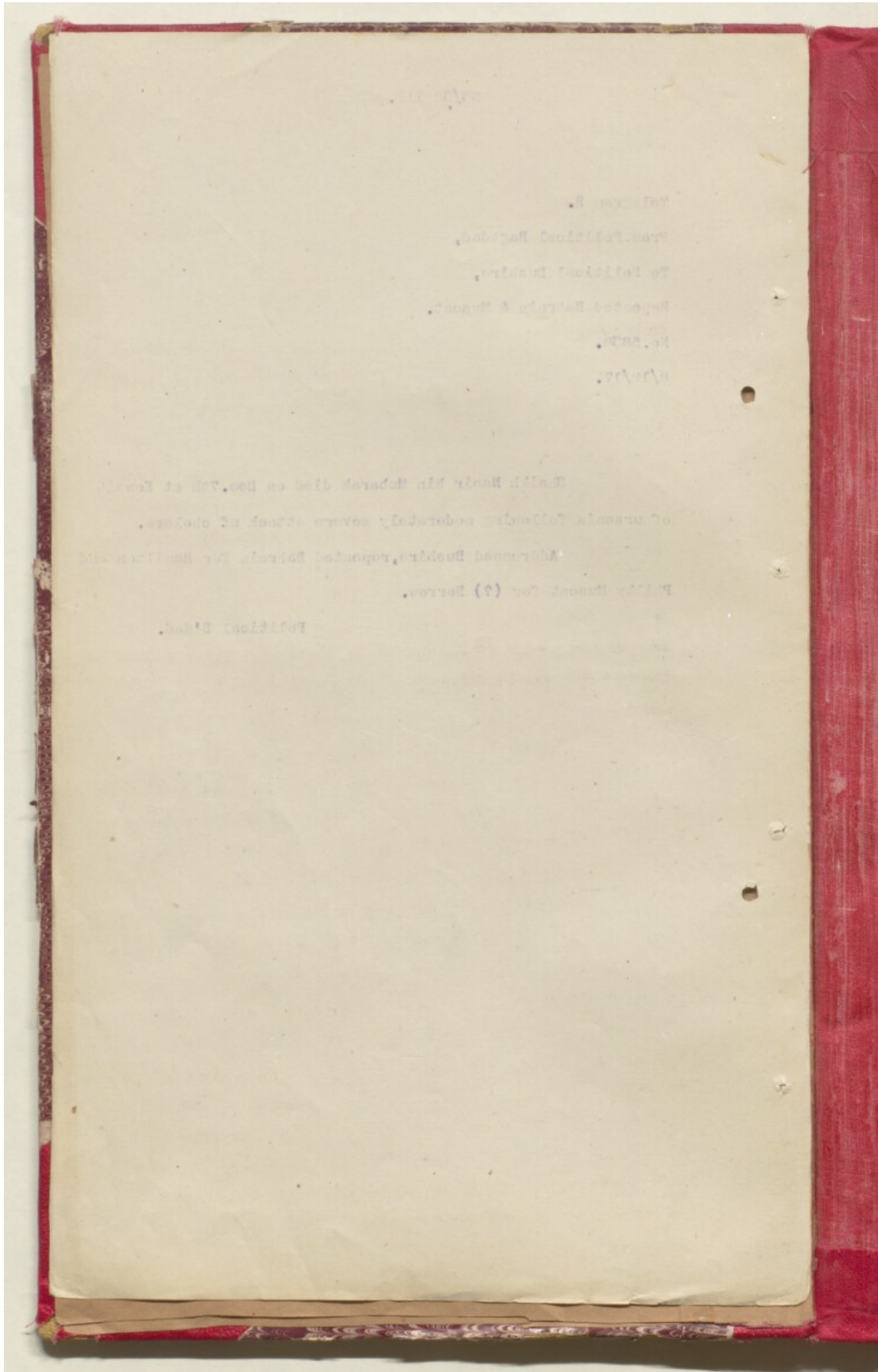
53/32 III.

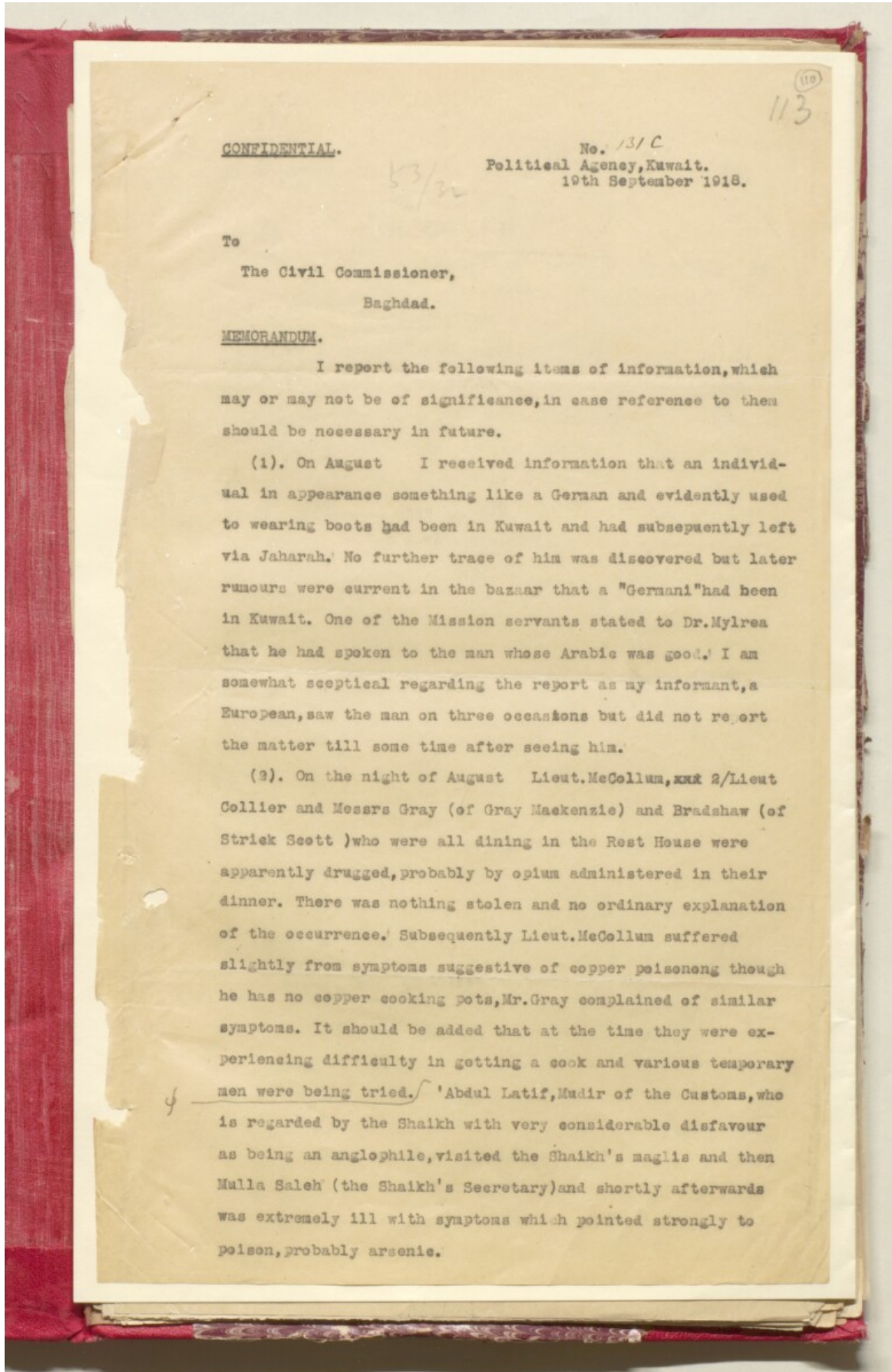
Telegram R.
From Political Baghdad,
To Political Bushire,
Repeated Bahrain & Muscat.
No. 5838.
8/12/17.

Shaikh Nasir bin Mubarak died on Dec. 7th at Koweit
of uraemia following moderately severe attack of cholera.

Addressed Bushire, repeated Bahrain for Hamilton and
Philby Muscat for (?) Borrow.

Political B'dad.





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 131 C
Political Agency, Kuwait.
19th September 1918.

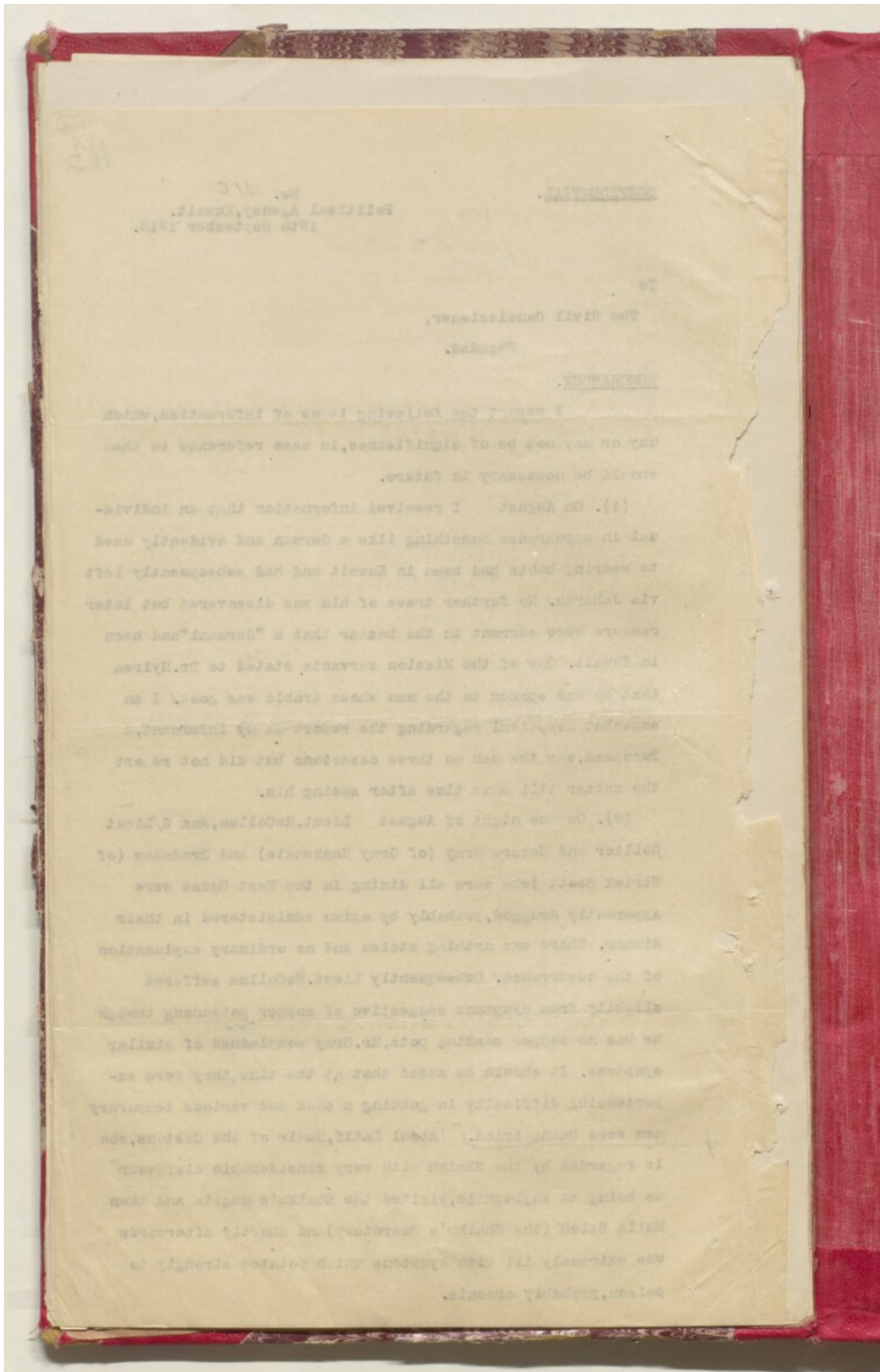
To
The Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad.

MEMORANDUM.

I report the following items of information, which may or may not be of significance, in case reference to them should be necessary in future.

(1). On August I received information that an individual in appearance something like a German and evidently used to wearing boots had been in Kuwait and had subsequently left via Jaharah. No further trace of him was discovered but later rumours were current in the bazaar that a "Germani" had been in Kuwait. One of the Mission servants stated to Dr. Mylrea that he had spoken to the man whose Arabic was good. I am somewhat sceptical regarding the report as my informant, a European, saw the man on three occasions but did not report the matter till some time after seeing him.

(2). On the night of August Lieut. McCollum, ~~xxx~~ 2/Lieut Collier and Messrs Gray (of Gray Mackenzie) and Bradshaw (of Strick Scett) who were all dining in the Rest House were apparently drugged, probably by opium administered in their dinner. There was nothing stolen and no ordinary explanation of the occurrence. Subsequently Lieut. McCollum suffered slightly from symptoms suggestive of copper poisoning though he has no copper cooking pots, Mr. Gray complained of similar symptoms. It should be added that at the time they were experiencing difficulty in getting a cook and various temporary men were being tried. 'Abdul Latif, Mudir of the Customs, who is regarded by the Shaikh with very considerable disfavour as being an anglophile, visited the Shaikh's maglis and then Mulla Saleh (the Shaikh's Secretary) and shortly afterwards was extremely ill with symptoms which pointed strongly to poison, probably arsenic.





(III)
114

A few days later a well-known merchant died of an attack with similar symptoms but the matter was hushed up. This merchant had nothing to do with us.

(3). On the afternoon of the deportation of Yusuf al Dawairi it seemed doubtful if the man would be produced at the hour named by us and Lieut. McCollum telephoned to the Mudir of the Customs who went to see the Shaikh about the matter. As no reply had come shortly before the ship was to sail (I had detained her till the afternoon) Lieut. McCollum went round on my behalf to enquire whether Yusuf al Dawairi would be handed over. He waited with the Shaikh's son on the veranda and the Shaikh sent out a message that he was busy in his maktub and that the man would be sent. He actually had with him Mulla Saleh and a relation of Yusuf al Dawairi and they were no doubt discussing the possibility of a final refusal, as even after receiving Sir Percy Cox' message the Shaikh was much against acceding to our request. I consider that in not seeing Lieut. McCollum the Shaikh was guilty of grave discourtesy, but I decided to take no steps in the matter as the Shaikh was much upset at the time and I think that any further unpalatable action on our part might very possibly have driven him into open defiance.

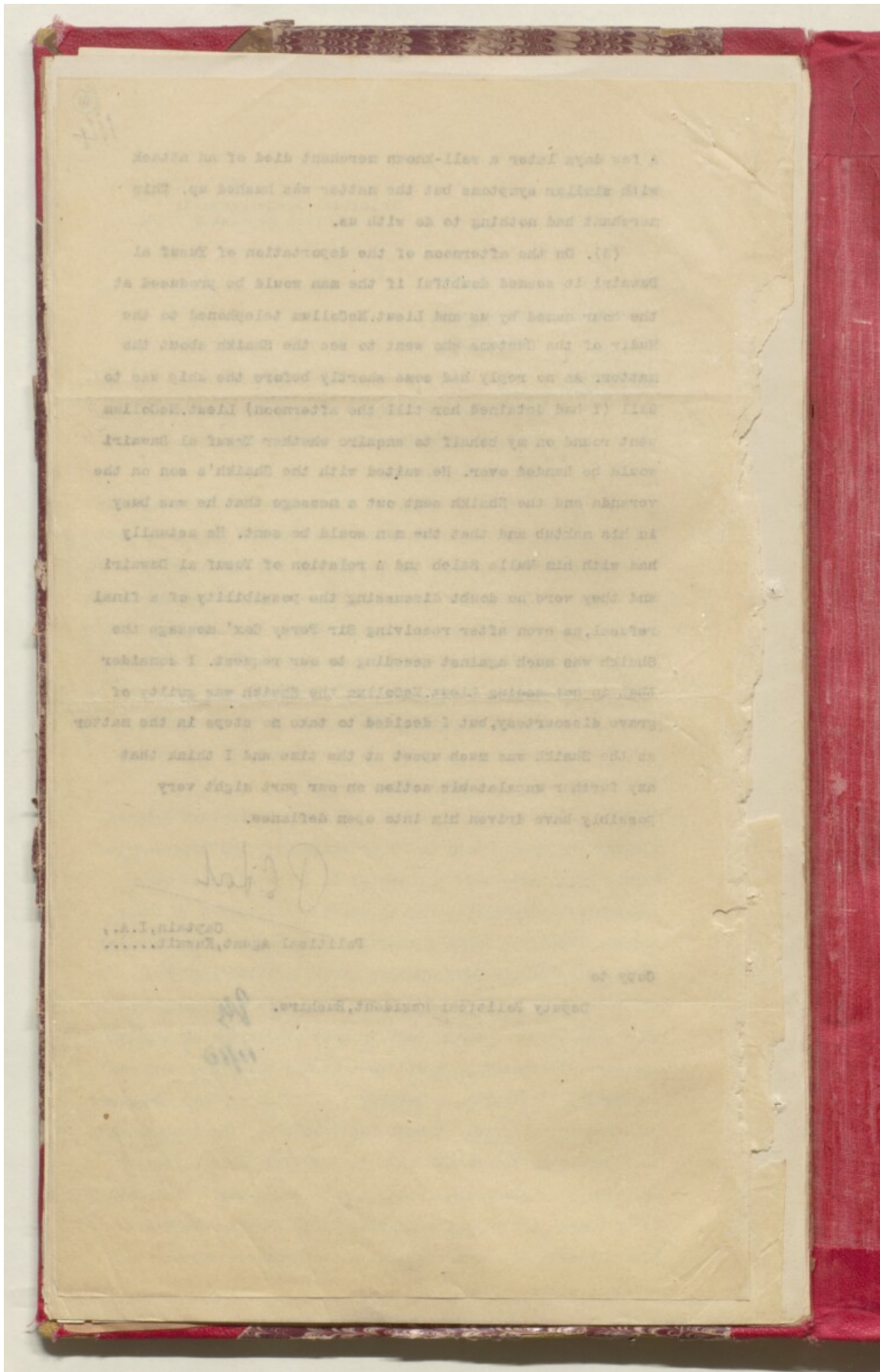
P. S. Kohl

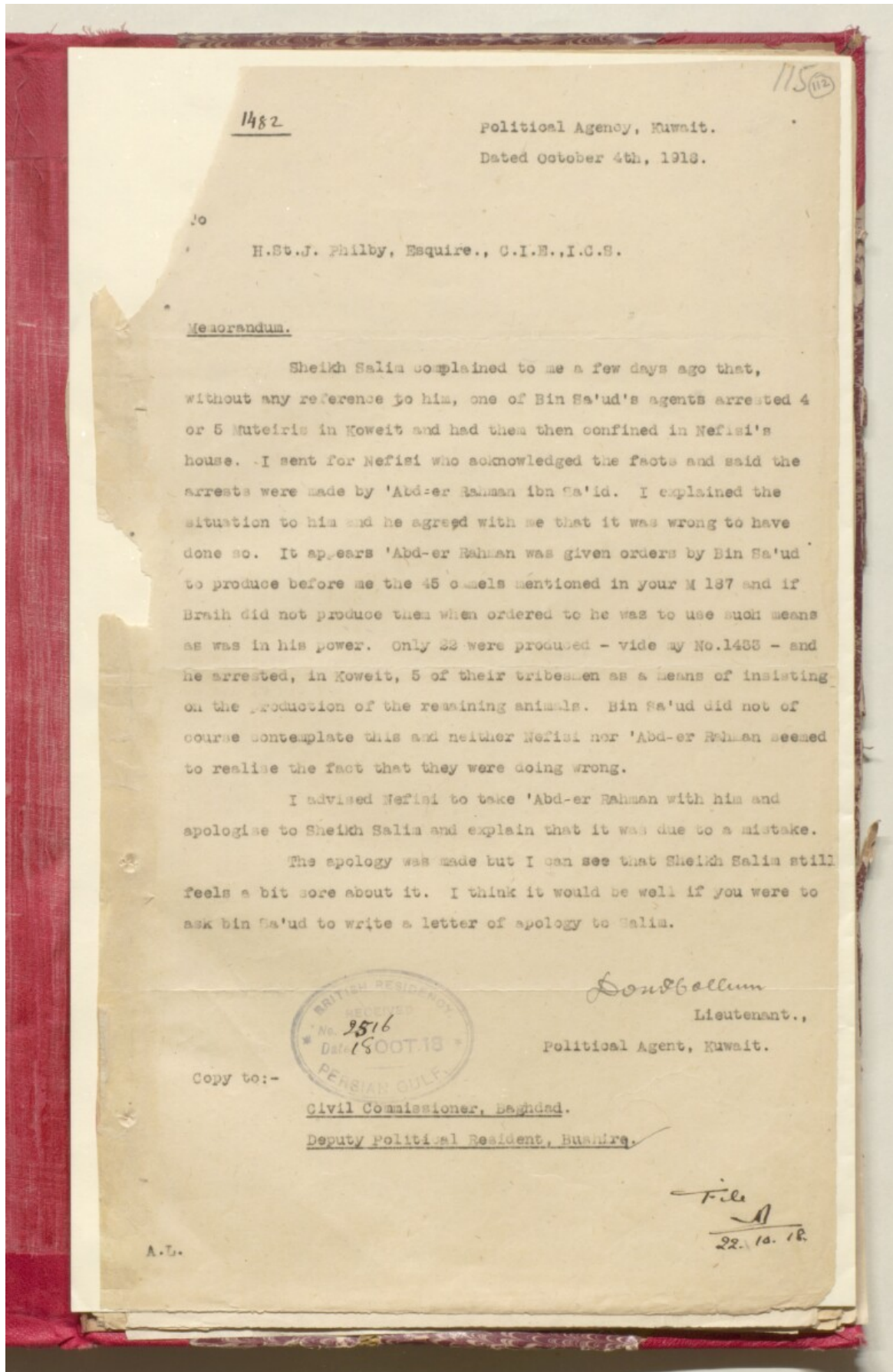
Captain, I.A.,
Political Agent, Kuwait.....

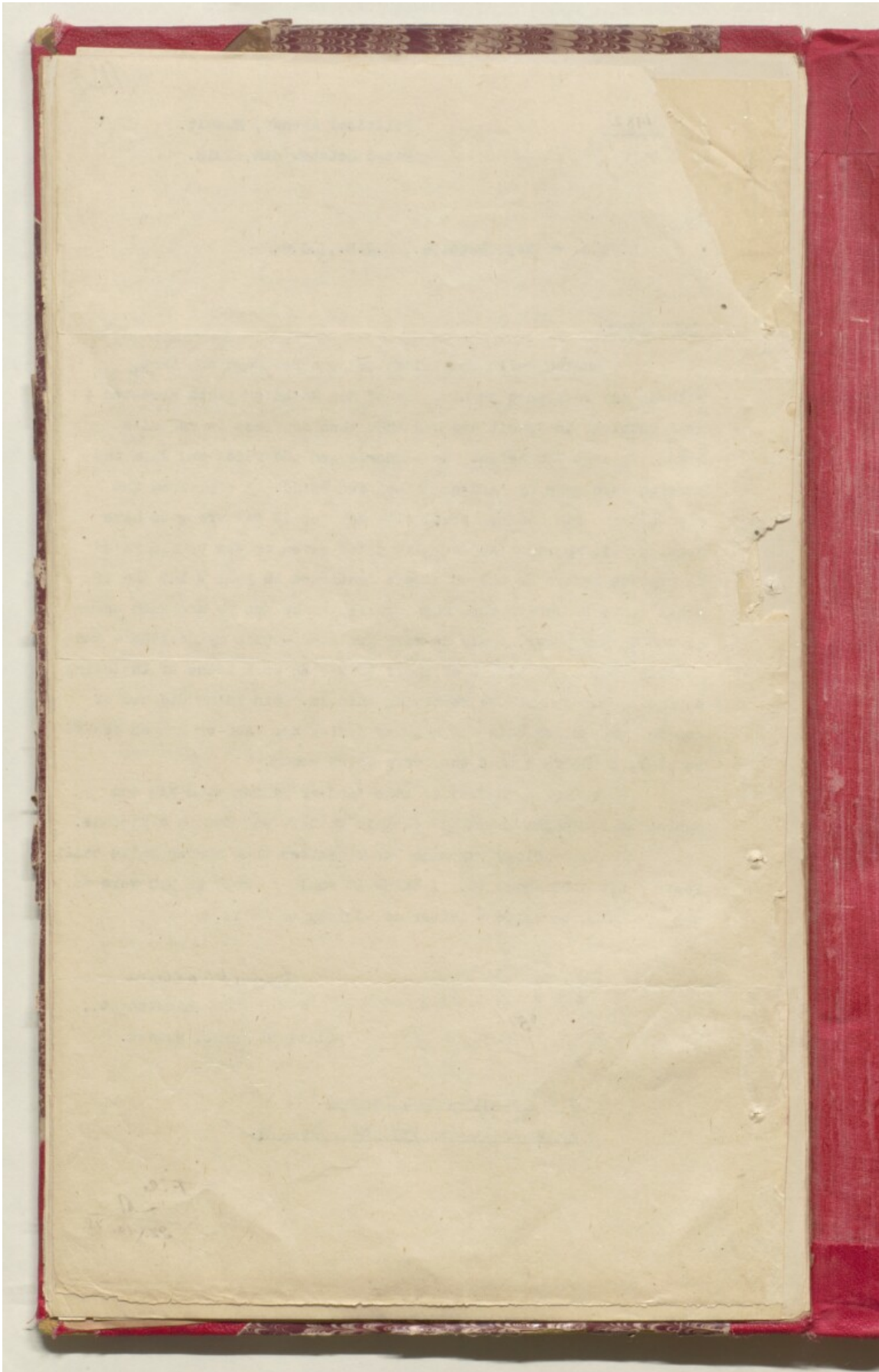
Copy to

Deputy Political Resident, Bushire.

9/11/10









Telegram P.

From.- Secretary of State for India, London.

To.- Foreign, Simla, repeated Political Baghdad.

No. of words. 36.

Dated 3rd and received 4th of October, 1918.

Proposed gift of five lakhs of rupees to Shaikh of Koweit sanctioned. Treasury agree to pay half on condition that opportunity taken to press for the repayment of previous loan of twelve thousand five hundred pounds sterling. Political Agent should use his discretion in raising this point.

No. 21442
7730.

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER?

Baghdad, the 7th October, 1918.

Political Agent, Koweit.

I forward for your information and necessary action a telegram from Secretary of State for India authorizing the gift to the Shaikh of Koweit of 5 lakhs of rupees in recognition of the pecuniary loss sustained by him in connection with the Blockade of Enemy Territory.

2. Unless you see any grave objection, in which case please communicate further, you should give the Shaikh to understand that you assume that he will be agreeable to your deducting therefrom and refunding to Government the sum of Rs. 1,87,500 lent to him free of interest by Government in January 1916.

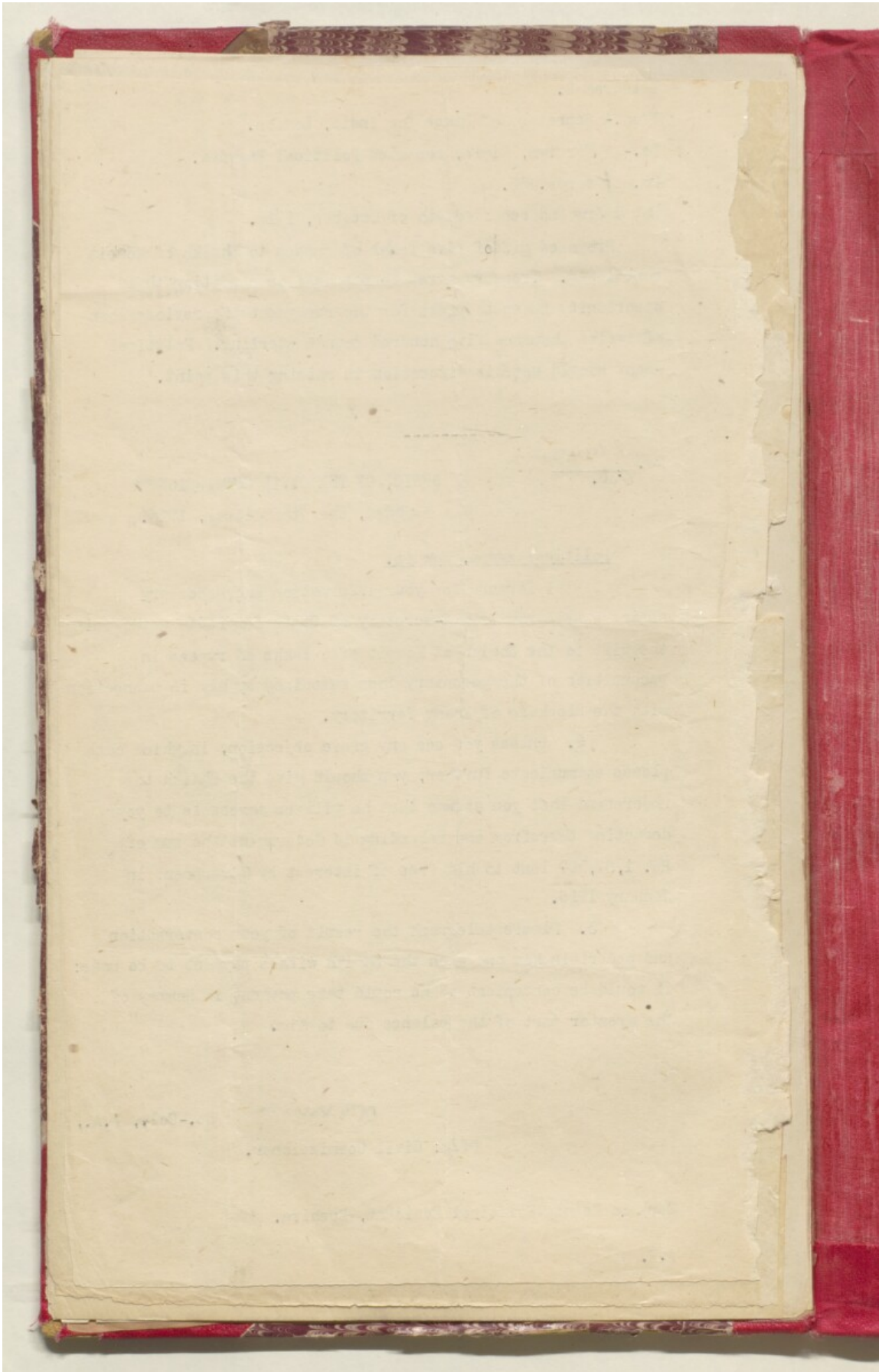
3. Please telegraph the result of your conversation and ascertain how and when the Shaikh wishes payment to be made: it would be convenient if he could take payment in Bombay of the greater part of the balance due to him.

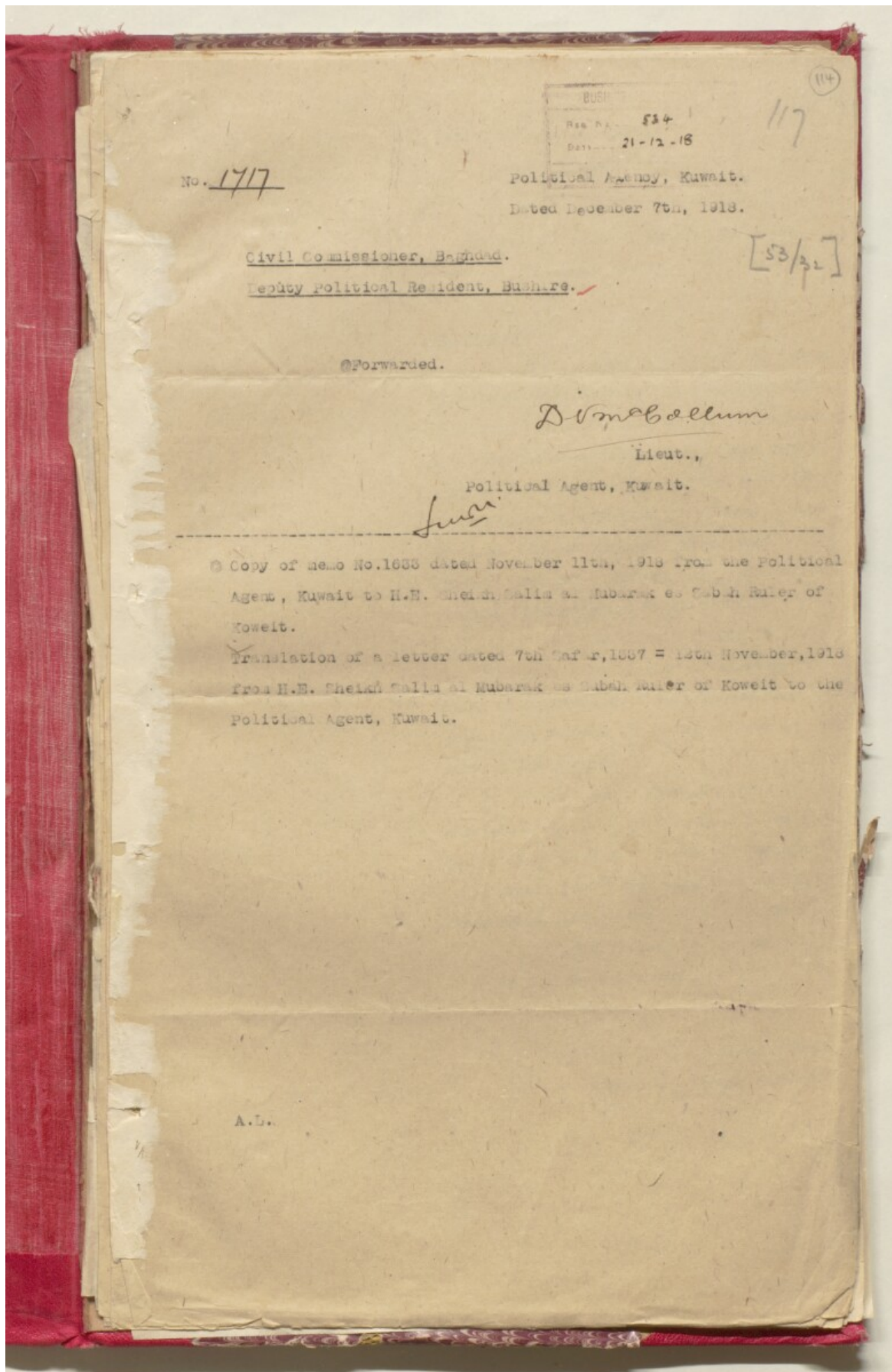
M. M. M. Lt.-Col., I.A.,

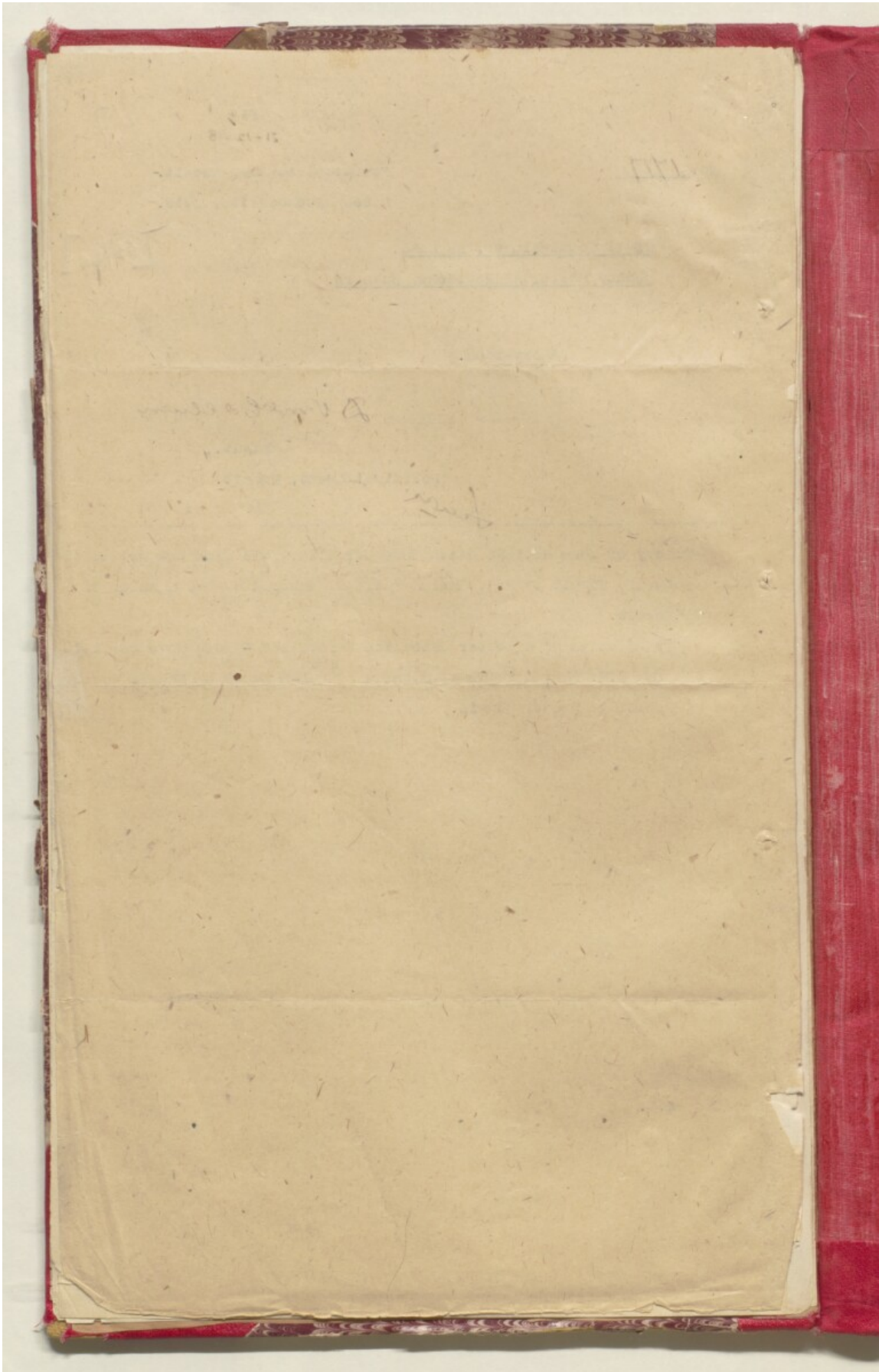
Offg: Civil Commissioner.

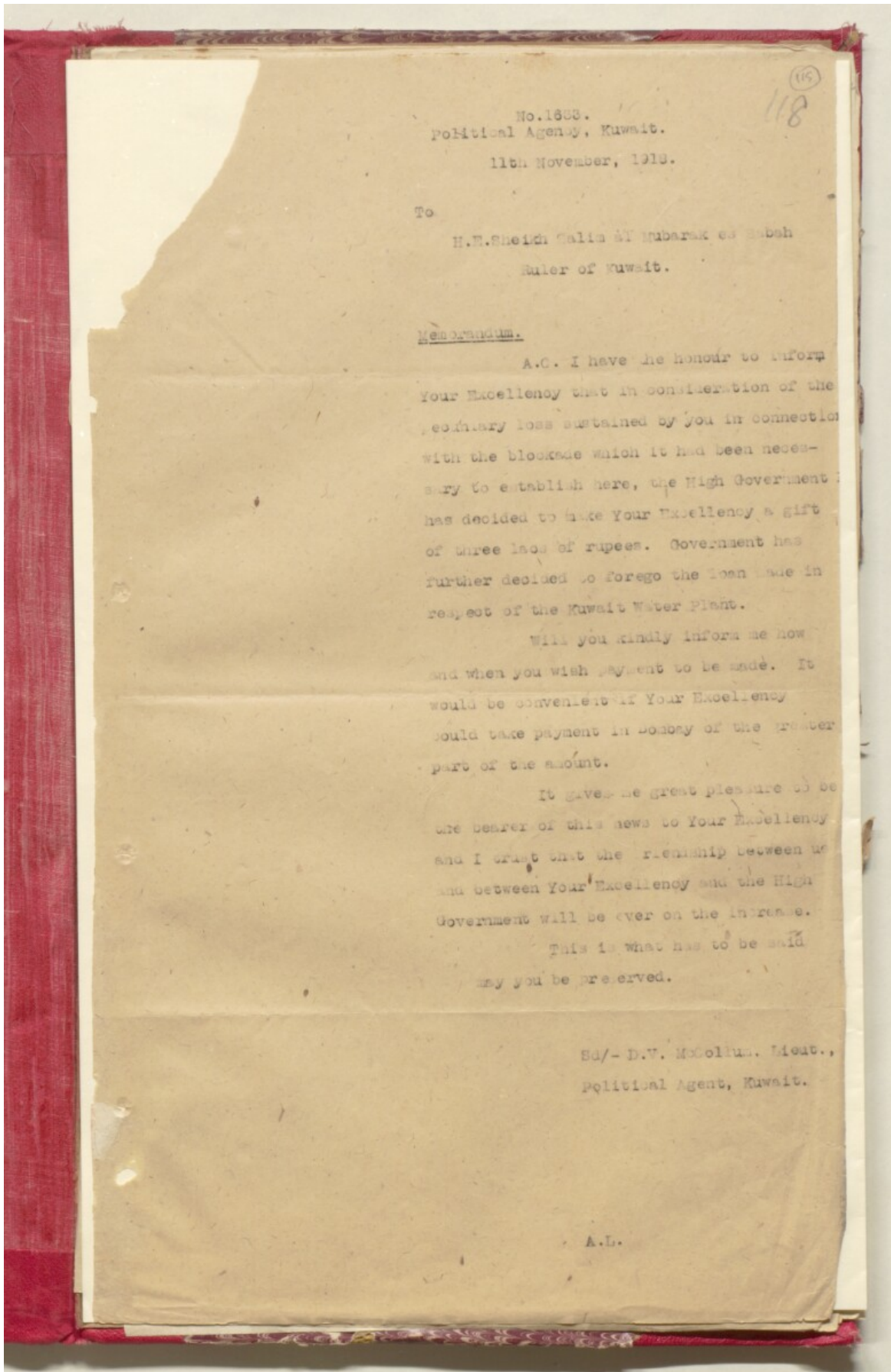
Copy to Deputy Political Resident, Bushire. ✓

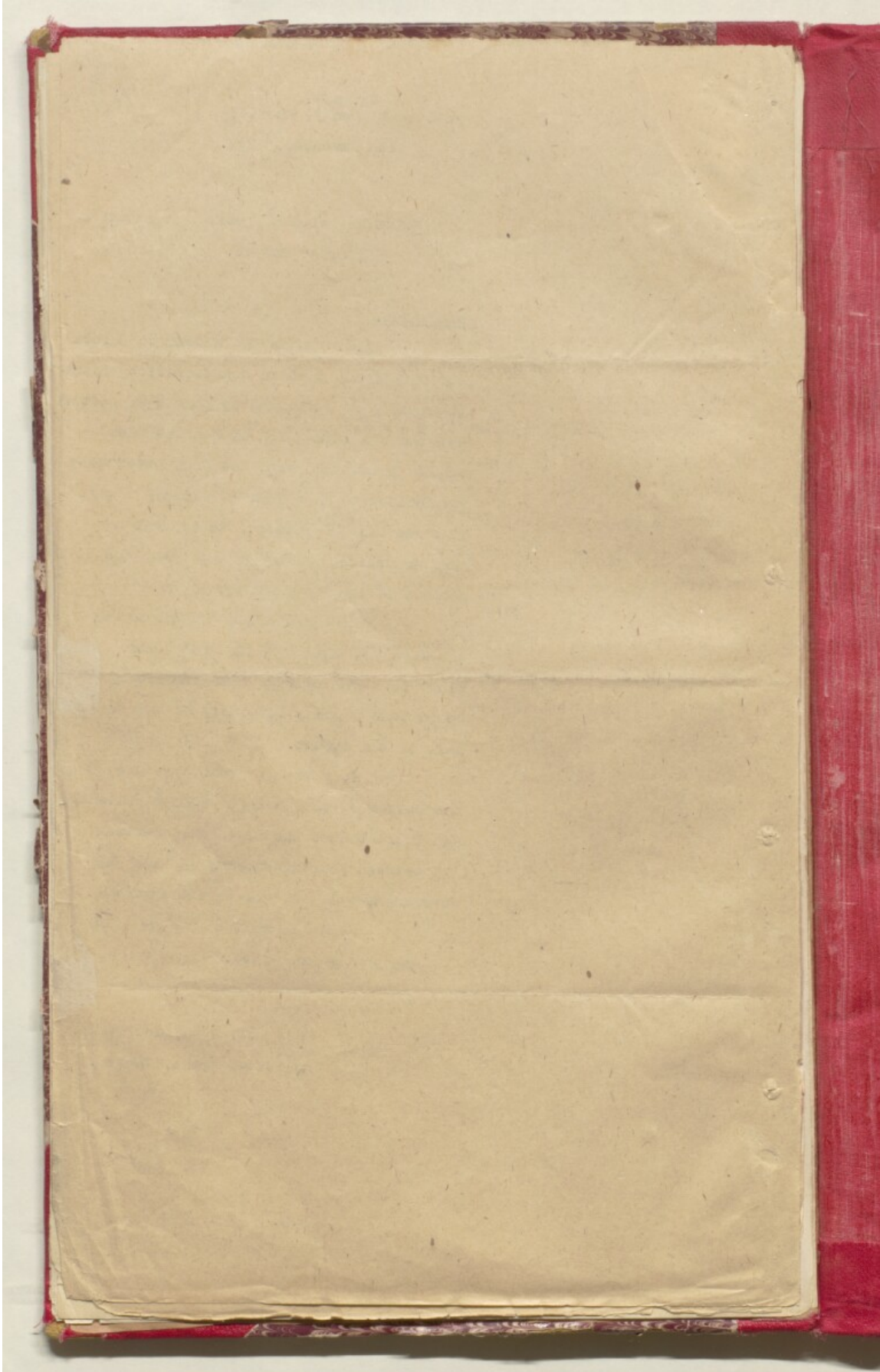
A.R. ✓

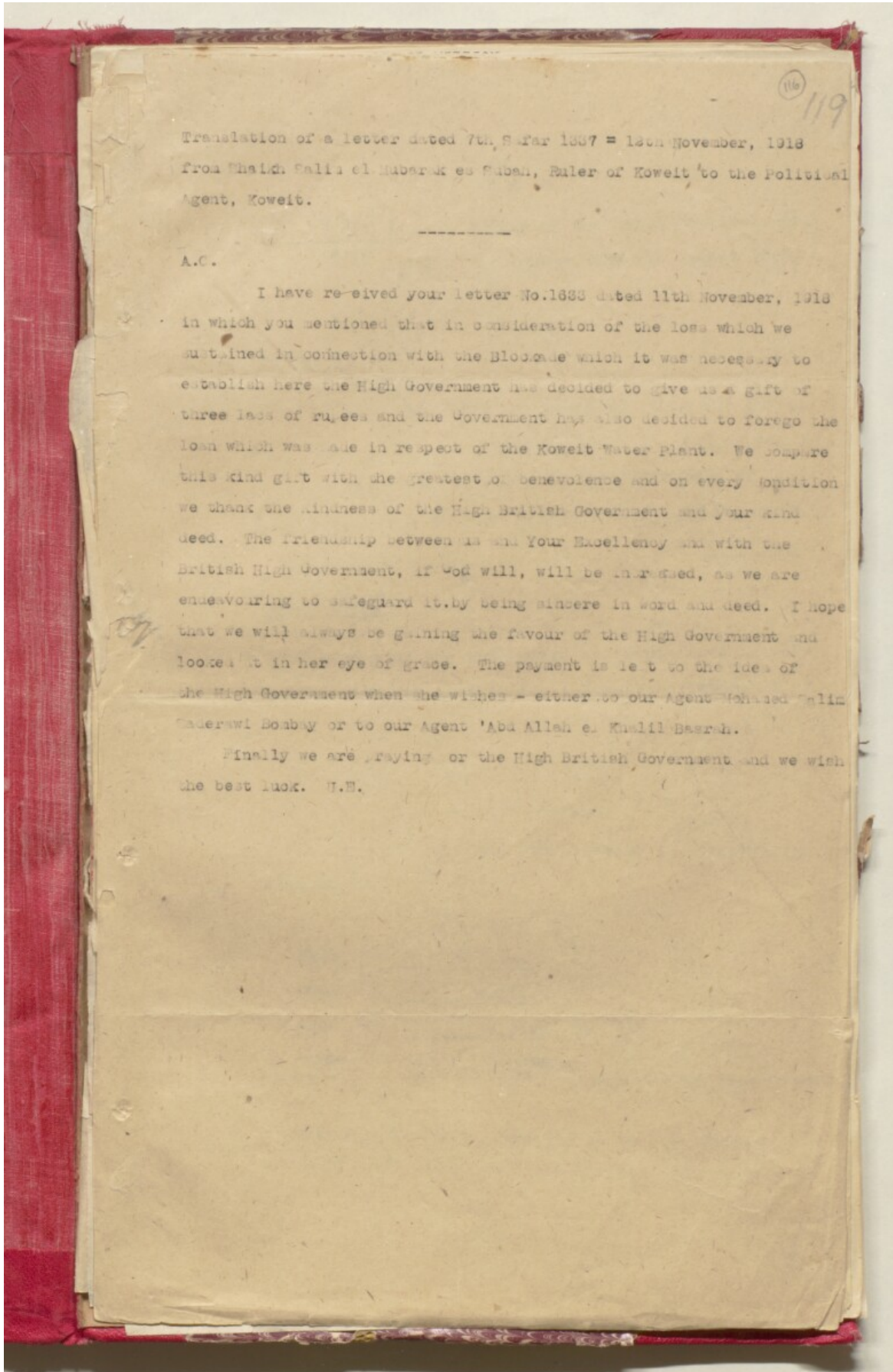










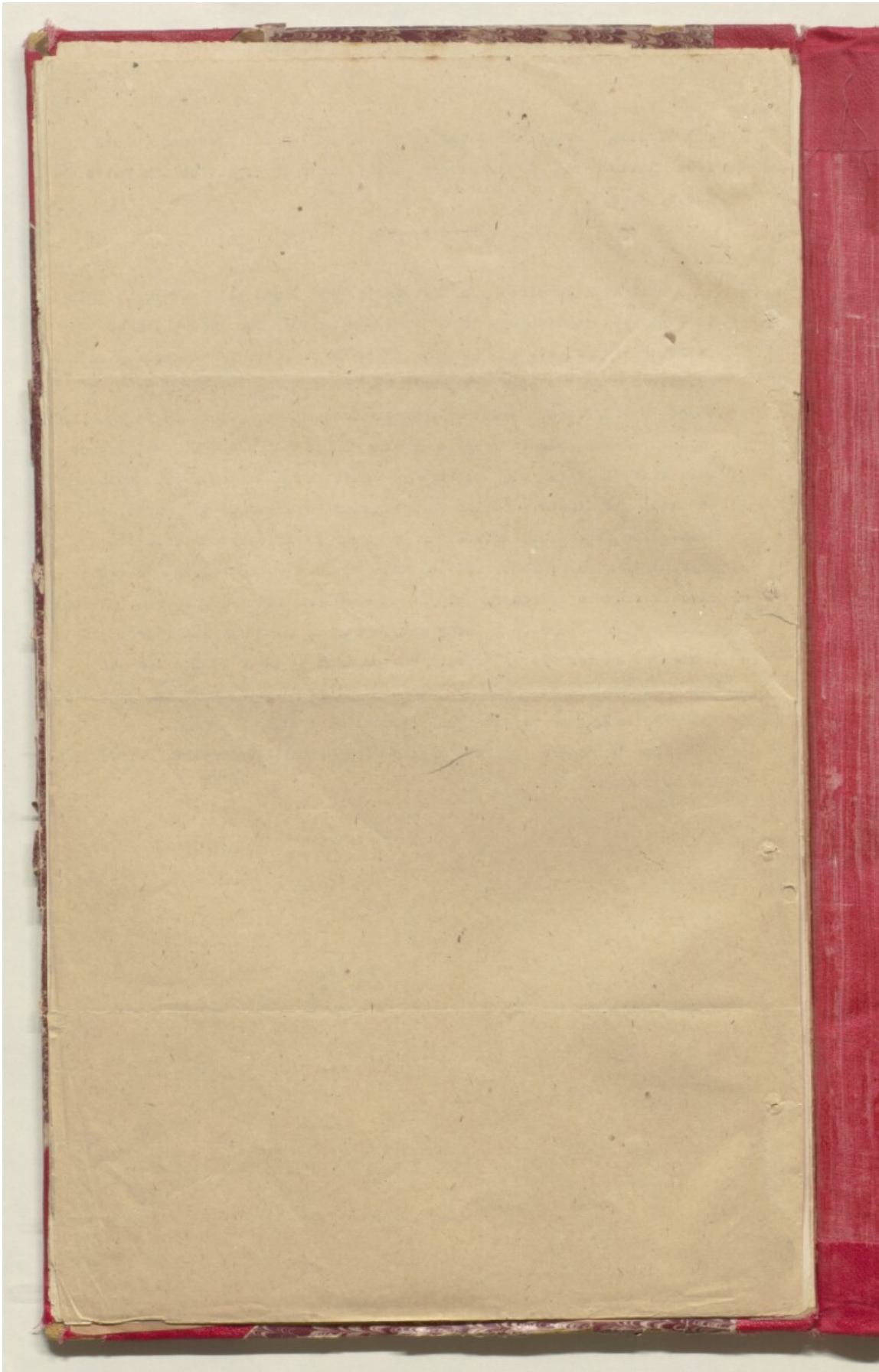


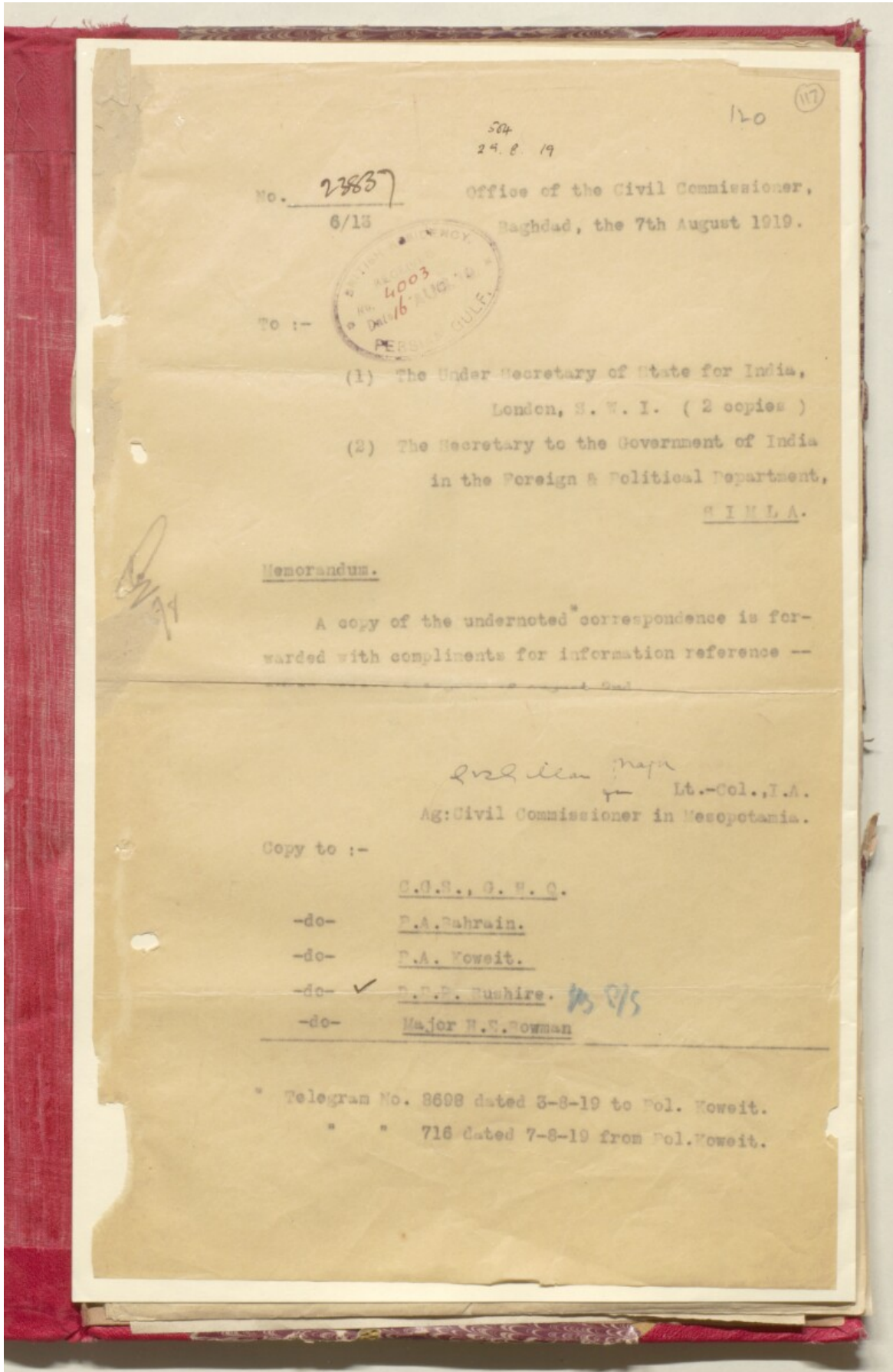
Translation of a letter dated 7th Safar 1337 = 12th November, 1918
from Shaikh Salih el-Mubarak es-Sabah, Ruler of Kuwait to the Political
Agent, Kuwait.

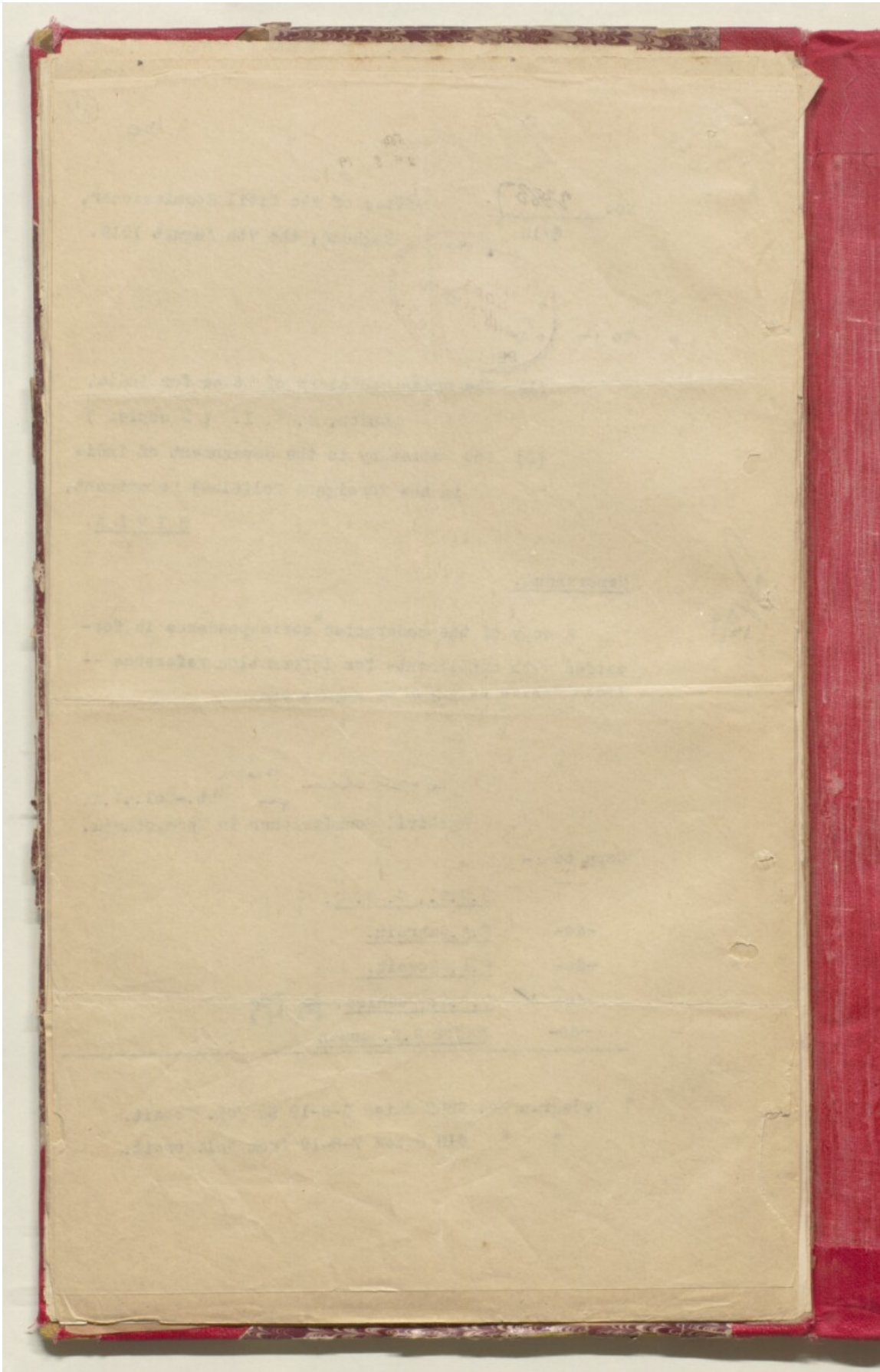
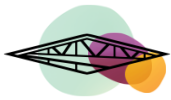
A.C.

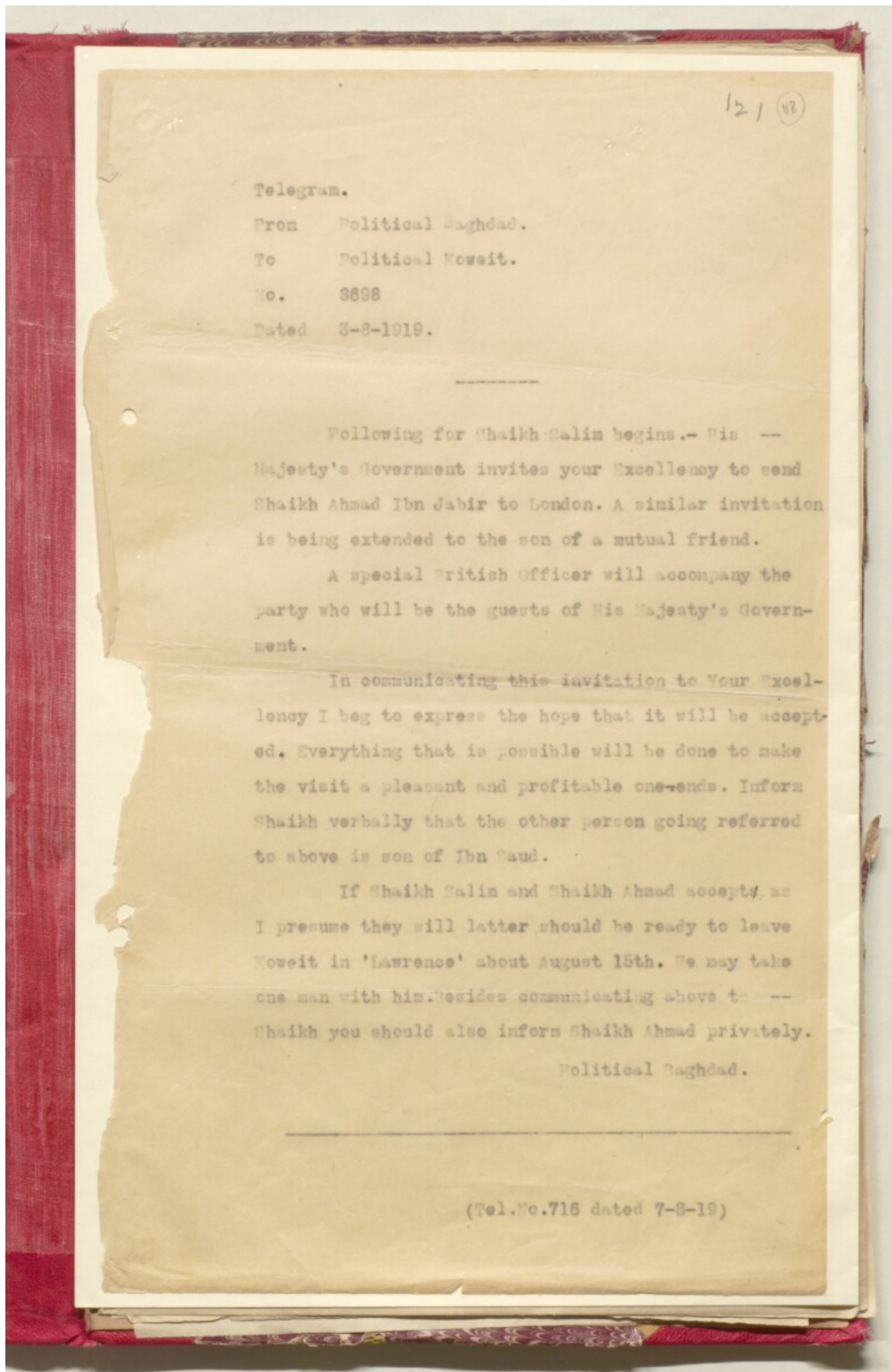
I have received your letter No.1633 dated 11th November, 1918
in which you mentioned that in consideration of the loss which we
sustained in connection with the Blockade which it was necessary to
establish here the High Government has decided to give us a gift of
three lacs of rupees and the Government has also decided to forego the
loan which was made in respect of the Kuwait Water Plant. We compare
this kind gift with the greatest of benevolence and on every condition
we thank the kindness of the High British Government and your kind
deed. The friendship between us and Your Excellency and with the
British High Government, if God will, will be increased, as we are
endeavouring to safeguard it by being sincere in word and deed. I hope
that we will always be gaining the favour of the High Government and
looking at it in her eye of grace. The payment is left to the idea of
the High Government when she wishes - either to our Agent Mohamed Salim
Gaderawi Bombay or to our Agent 'Abd Allah e. Khelil Basrah.

Finally we are praying for the High British Government and we wish
the best luck. H.E.









Telegram.

From Political Baghdad.

To Political Koweit.

No. 3898

Dated 3-8-1919.

Following for Shaikh Salim begins.- His Majesty's Government invites your Excellency to send Shaikh Ahmad Ibn Jabir to London. A similar invitation is being extended to the son of a mutual friend.

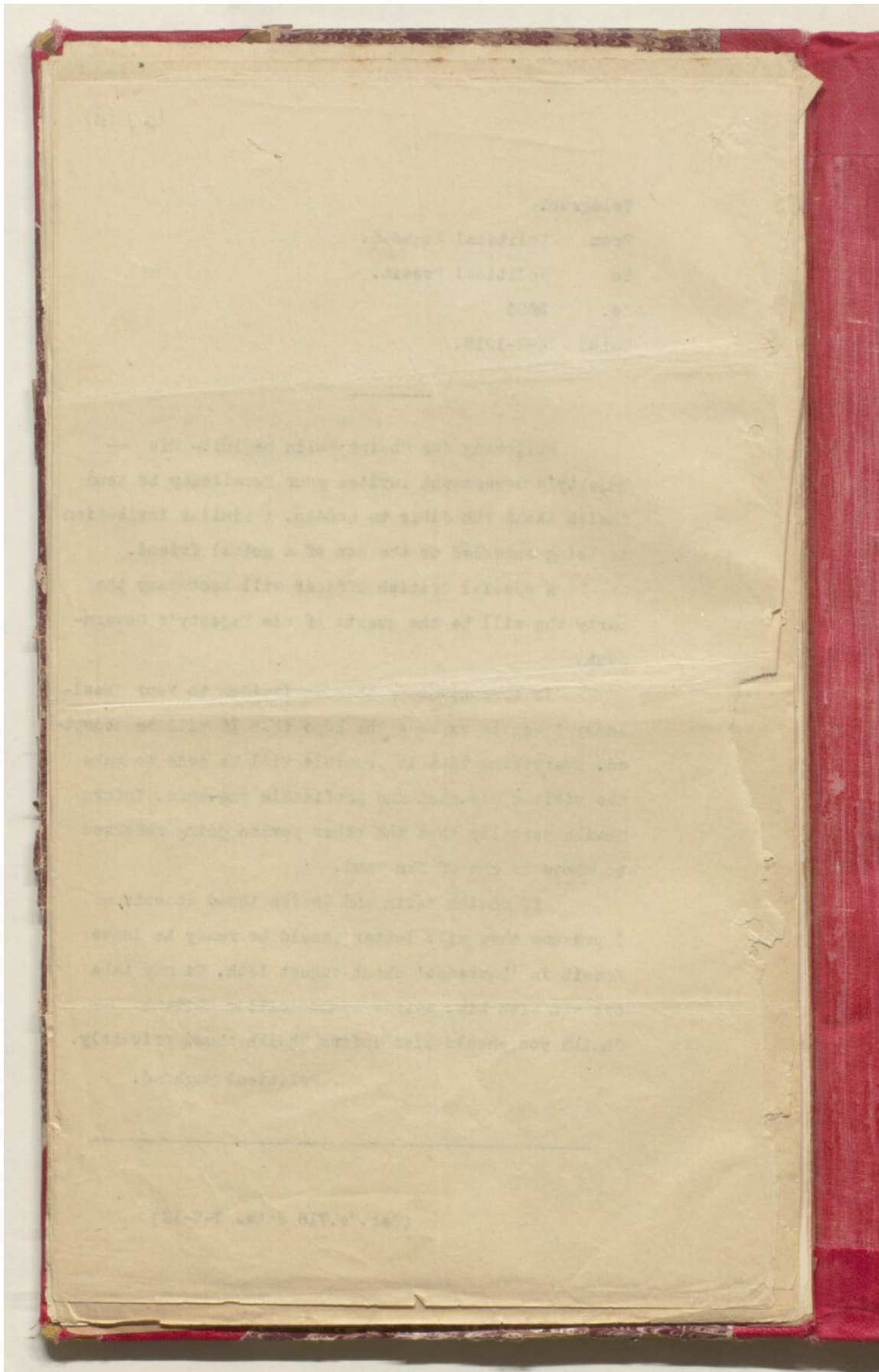
A special British Officer will accompany the party who will be the guests of His Majesty's Government.

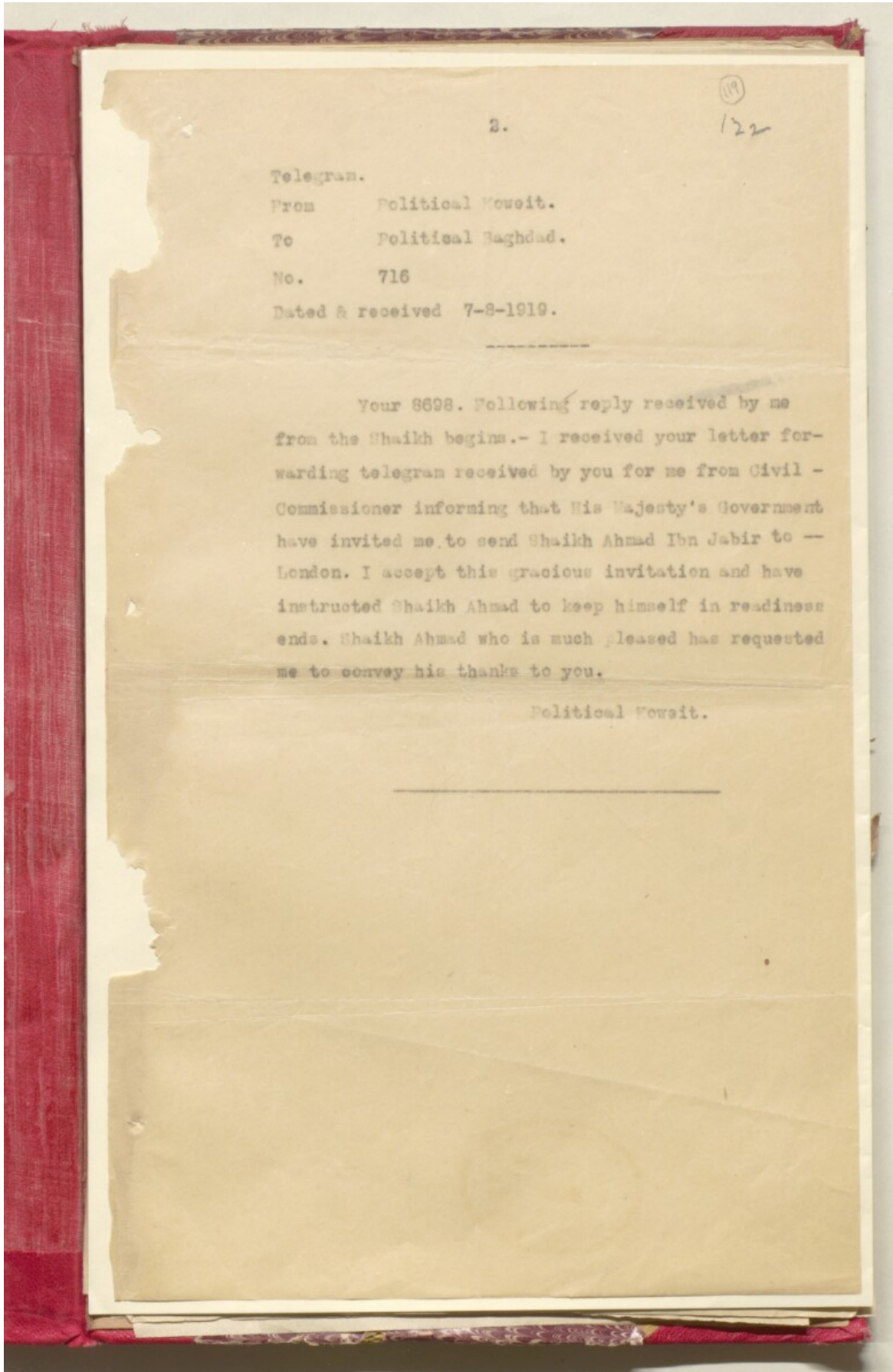
In communicating this invitation to Your Excellency I beg to express the hope that it will be accepted. Everything that is possible will be done to make the visit a pleasant and profitable one-ends. Inform Shaikh verbally that the other person going referred to above is son of Ibn Saud.

If Shaikh Salim and Shaikh Ahmad accept, as I presume they will latter should be ready to leave Koweit in 'Lawrence' about August 15th. He may take one man with him. Besides communicating above to Shaikh you should also inform Shaikh Ahmad privately.

Political Baghdad.

(Tel.No.716 dated 7-8-19)





2.

(119)

122

Telegram.

From Political Koweit.

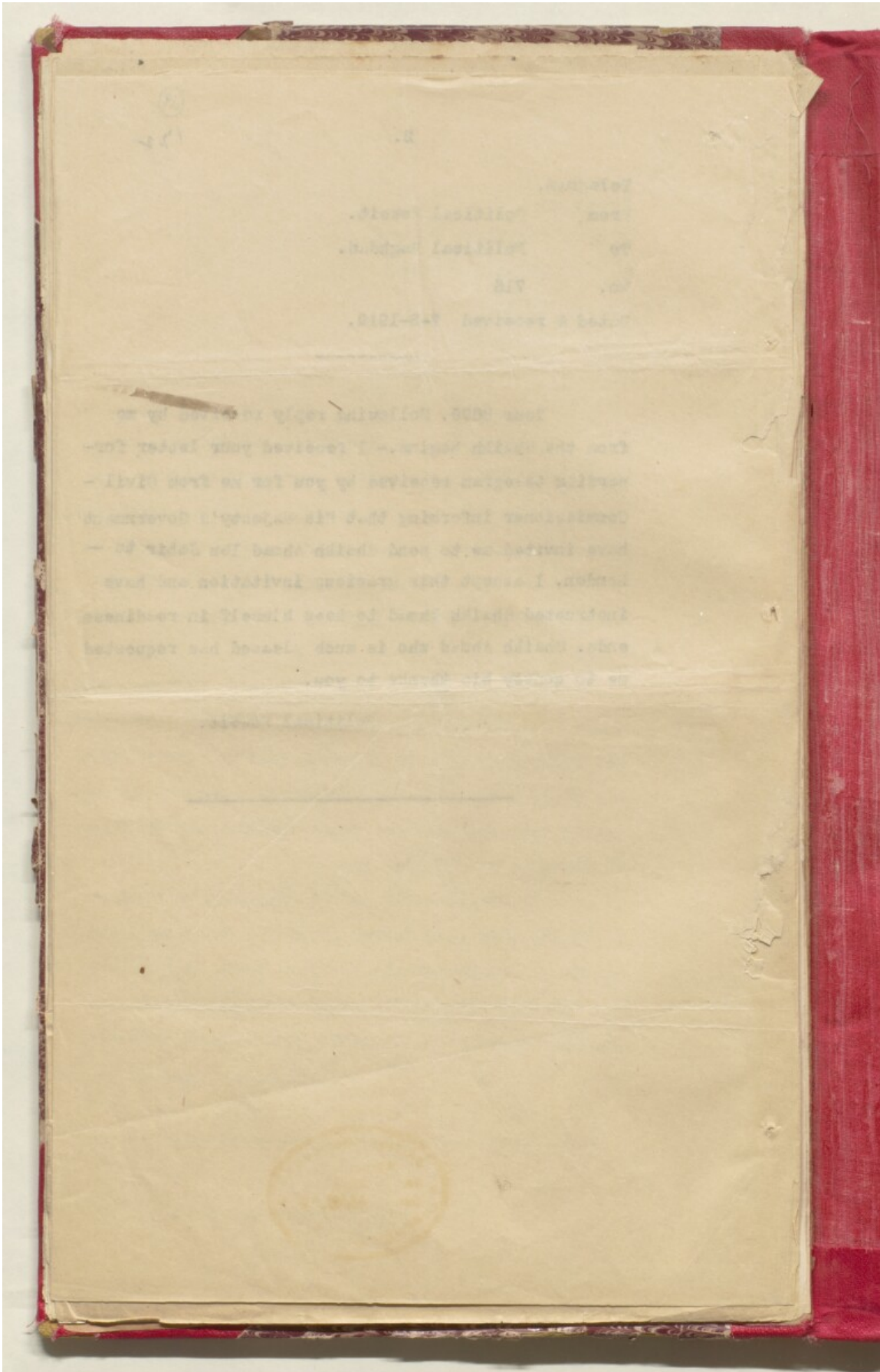
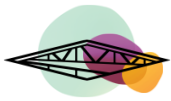
To Political Baghdad.

No. 716

Dated & received 7-8-1919.

Your 8698. Following reply received by me from the Shaikh begins.- I received your letter forwarding telegram received by you for me from Civil - Commissioner informing that His Majesty's Government have invited me to send Shaikh Ahmad Ibn Jabir to -- London. I accept this gracious invitation and have instructed Shaikh Ahmad to keep himself in readiness etc. Shaikh Ahmad who is much pleased has requested me to convey his thanks to you.

Political Koweit.





Telegram (P) (PRIORITY) 123 (120)

From :- The Secretary of State for India, London.

To :- Political, Baghdad.
(Repeated Viceroy, Simla).

Dated 2nd August 1919.

Received 3rd August 1919.

The proposals with regard to Arab Visitors
put forward in your telegrams No. 7793 and No. 7794
of July 12th
are approved of.

Secretary of State for India,
London.

-----000000-----

23391

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY	No
Res. No. 538	
Date 26.9.19	
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS	

OFFICE OF THE CIVIL COMMISSIONER,
BAGHDAD, the 3rd AUGUST 1919.

Political Agent, Bahrain.

" " Koweit.

Dy. Political Resident, Bushire. ✓

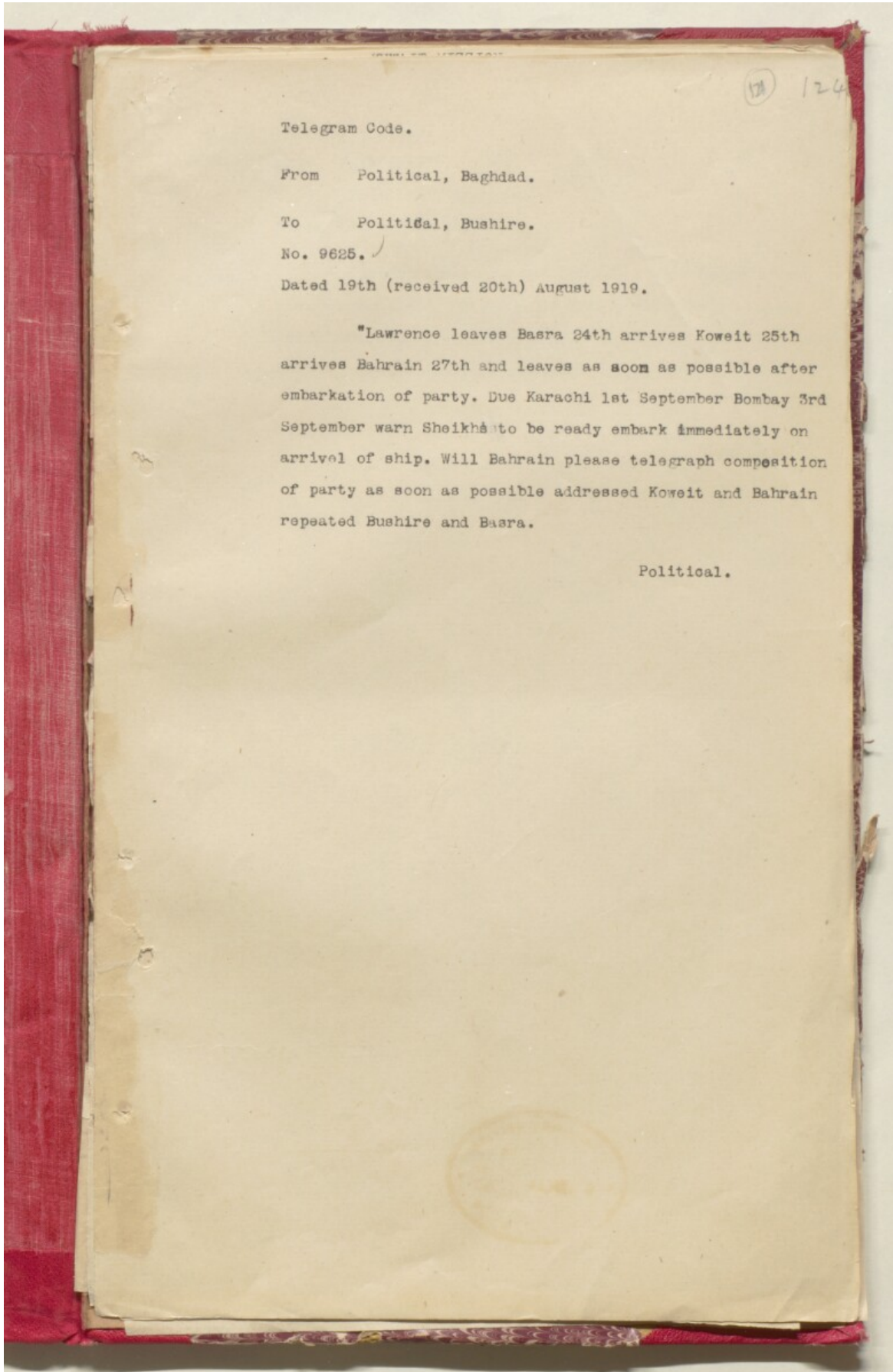
Copy for information reference
my 21128 of July 13th.

11/4

prize lian has
Lieut-Colonel, I.A.,
Acting Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.

BRITISH RESIDENCY
RECEIVED
No. 3981
Date 14 AUG. 19
PERSIAN GULF





Telegram Code.

From Political, Baghdad.

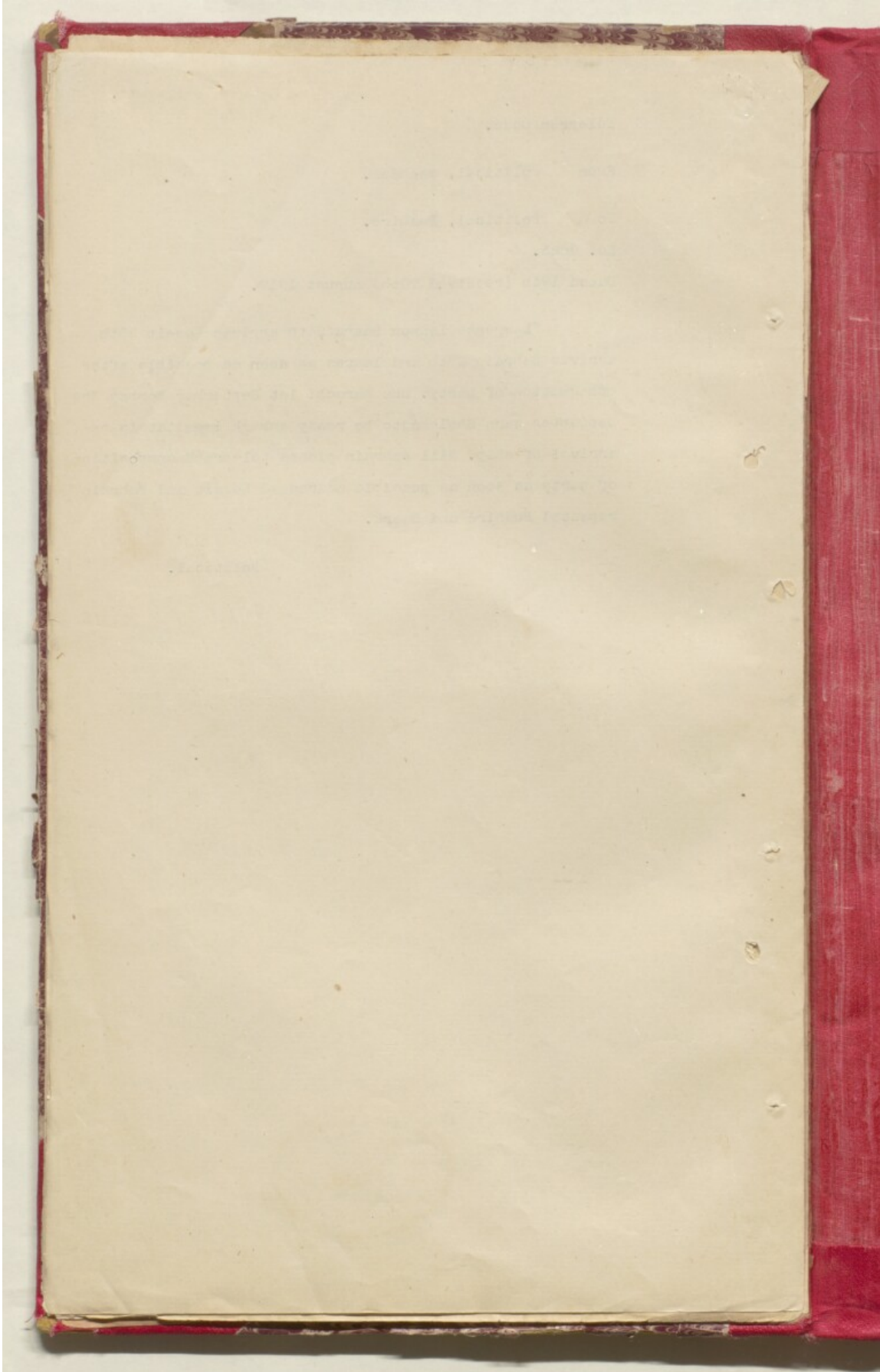
To Political, Bushire.

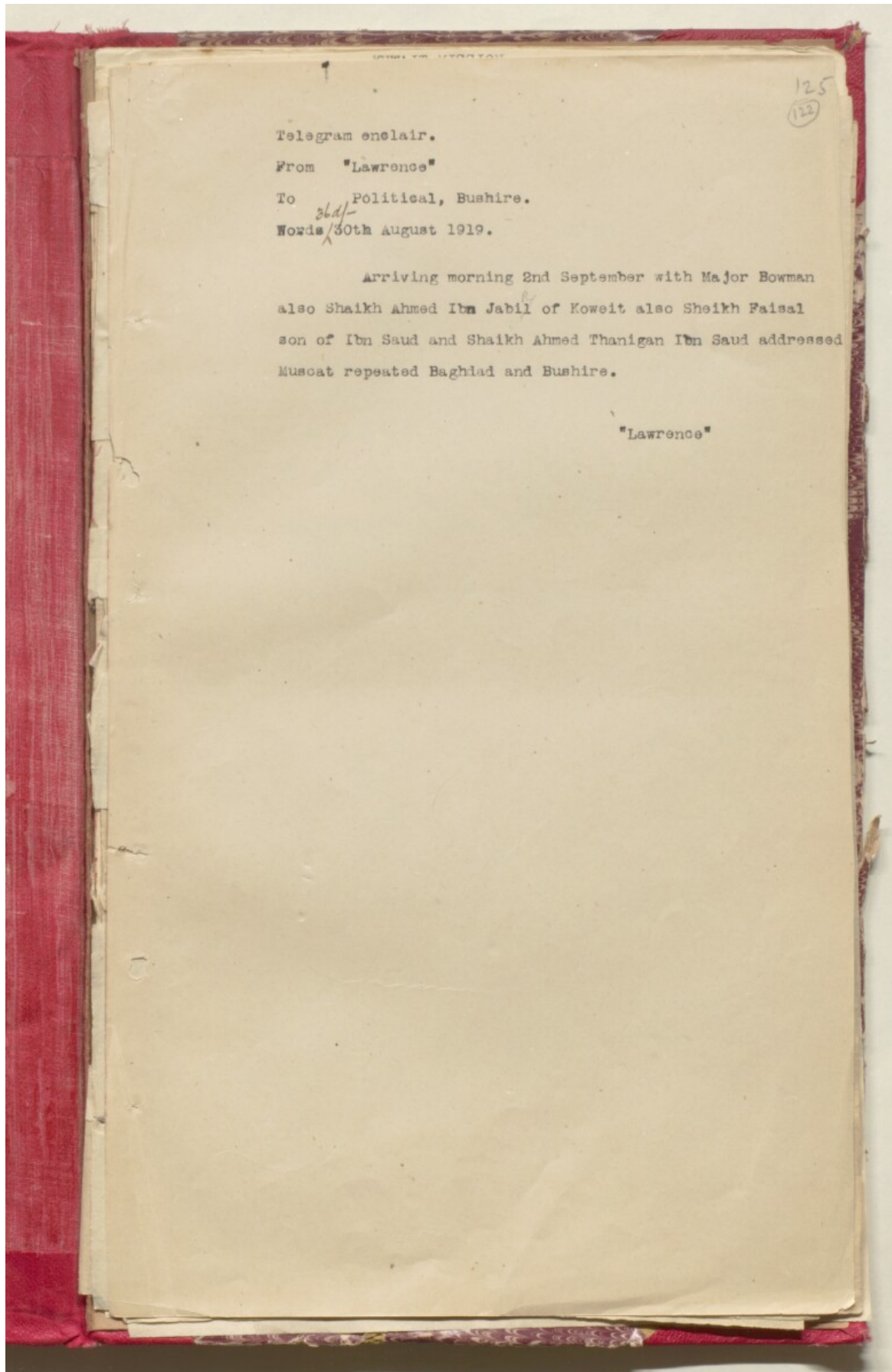
No. 9625.

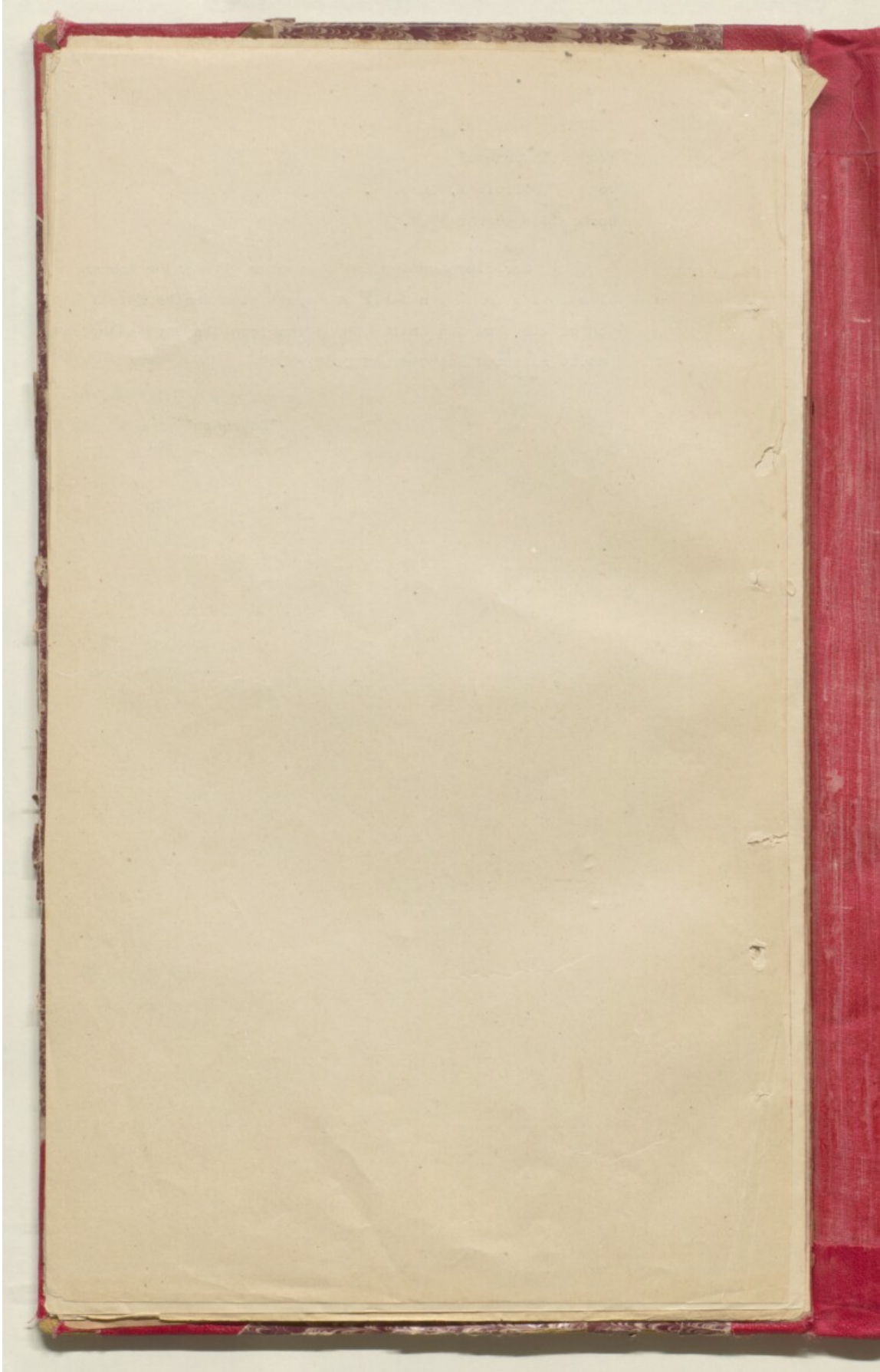
Dated 19th (received 20th) August 1919.

"Lawrence leaves Basra 24th arrives Koweit 25th arrives Bahrain 27th and leaves as soon as possible after embarkation of party. Due Karachi 1st September Bombay 3rd September warn Sheikhs to be ready embark immediately on arrival of ship. Will Bahrain please telegraph composition of party as soon as possible addressed Koweit and Bahrain repeated Bushire and Basra.

Political.









53/32 (123) 126

Telegram - Code

From Civil Commissioner, Baghdad

To India Office, London

No. 15717

Dated 30th December 1919

" Shaikh Ahmad of Koweit asks me to express his gratitude to the officers of the India Office in general and to Sir James Dunlop Smith in particular for the arrangements made for his comfort whilst in London. He has expressed himself most gratified with this treatment, and I consider that his tour is likely to have good political effect.

Civil Commissioner, Baghdad.

No. 38814 6/13 Office of the Civil Commissioner, Baghdad, the 31st December 1919.

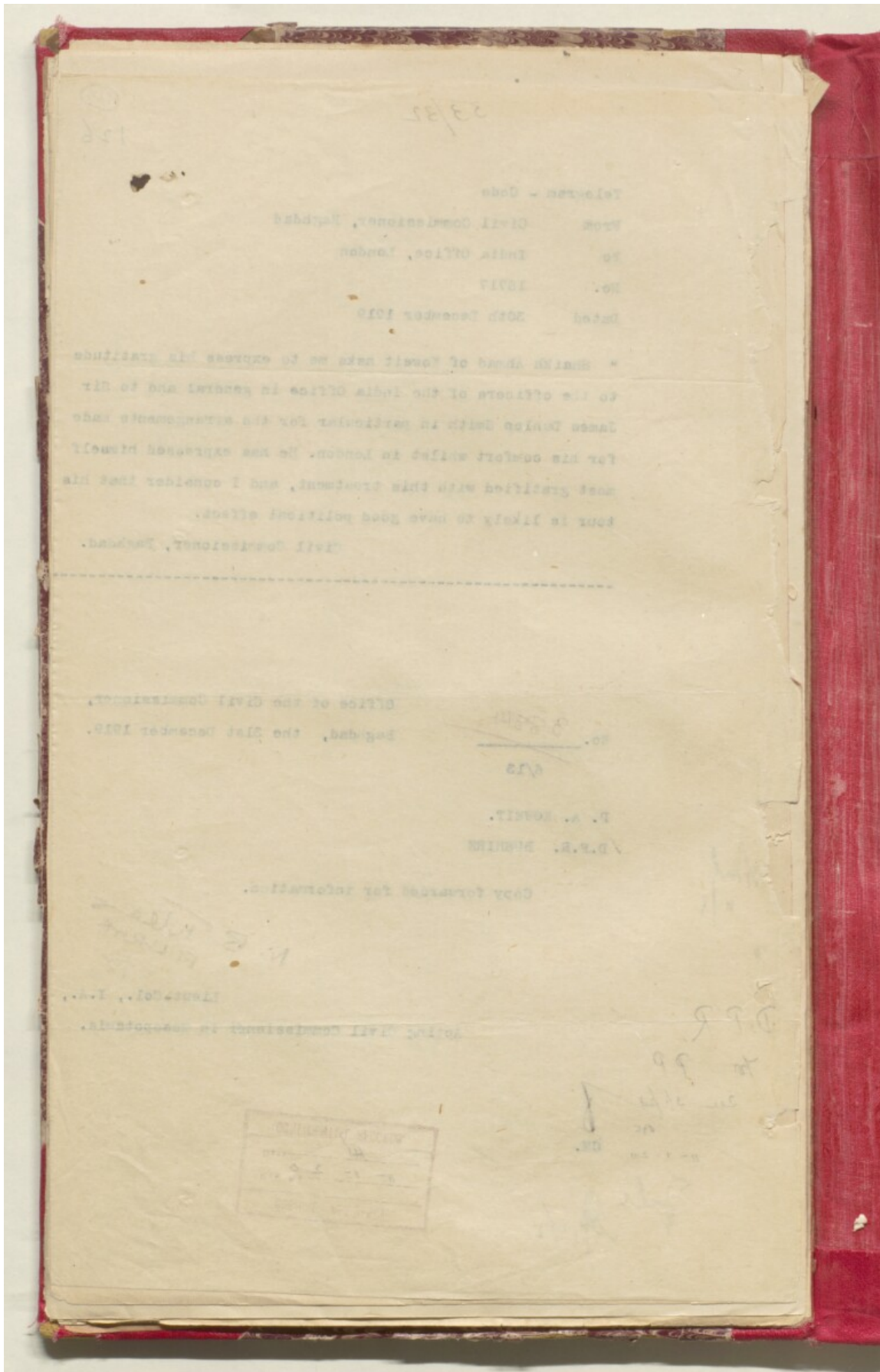
P. A. KOWEIT.
/D.P.R. BUSHIRE

Copy forwarded for information.

M. B. Tulea
P. A. KOWEIT
for
Lieut-Col., I.A.,
Acting Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.

D.P.R.
for P.P.
see 5/12
ac
11-1-20. CM.
File 5/12

CONFIDENTIAL RECORD
11-1-20
BUSHIRE RESIDENCY





53/32 (124) 127

Telegram, Code, Ordinary
From C.C. Baghdad
To Secy. of State for India, London.
No. 15445.
Dated 22/12/1920.

Following for Leachman, begins. My telegram of 18th November 13613. Koweit will be vacant next month. Please telegraph if you are willing to return. Should you accept post you would, subject to concurrence of India Office represent this side on any Commission that may be sent hereafter to Bin Saud.

Can offer you renewal of contract for further period of 12 months. Ends.

C.C. Baghdad.

Telegram, Code.
From Secy. of State for India, London.
To Civil Commissioner, Baghdad
No. nil.
Dated and 9th and read. 15/1/1920.

YOUR RESIDENCY
No. 89
D. 28-1-20
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

Your telegram December 22nd 15445. Leachman accepts. Medical Board report him fit sailed on 15th January.

S. of S. for India, London.

No. 2205
100/III. Office of the Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad, 20th January, 1920.

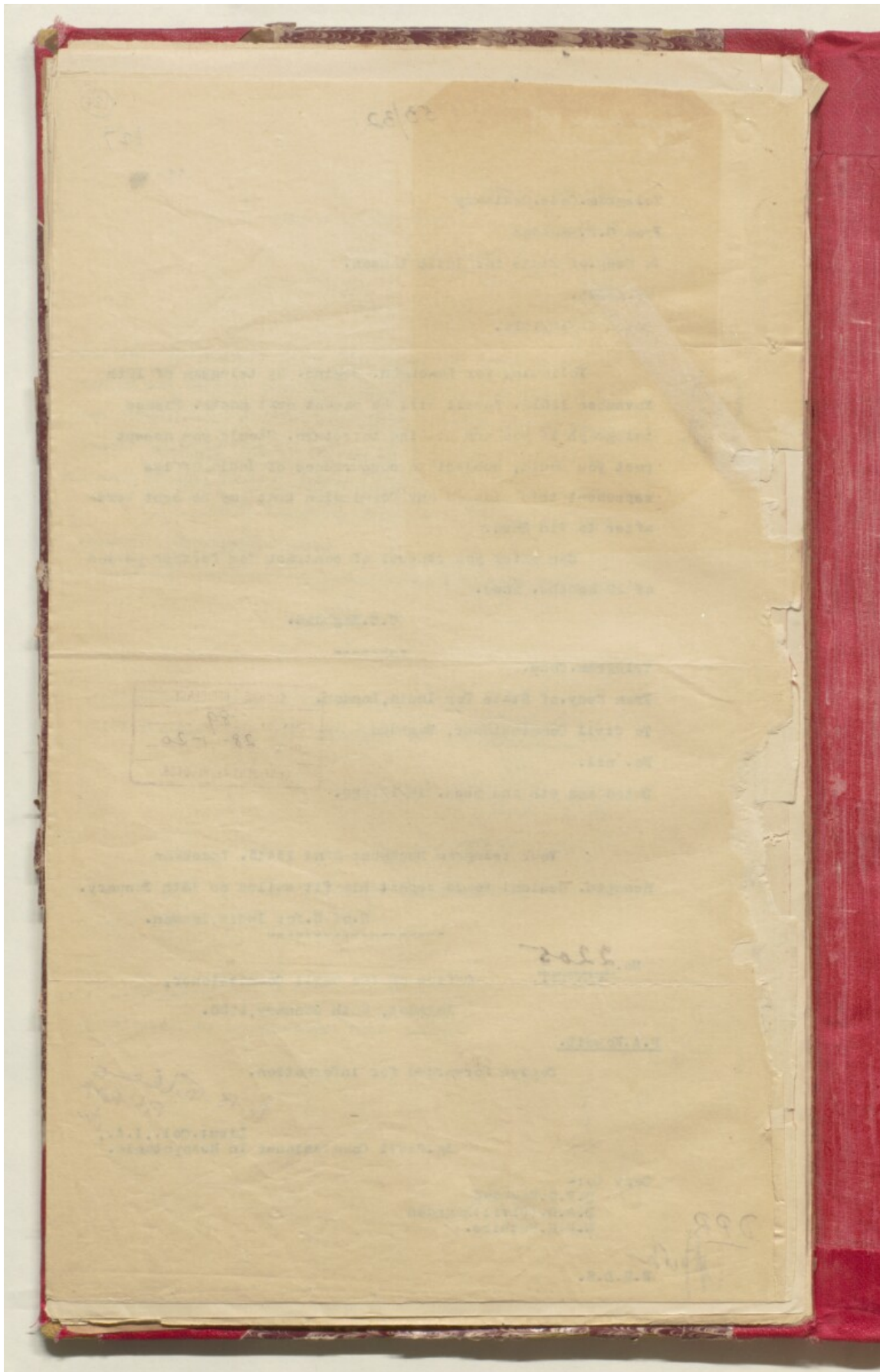
P.A. Koweit.
Copies forwarded for information.

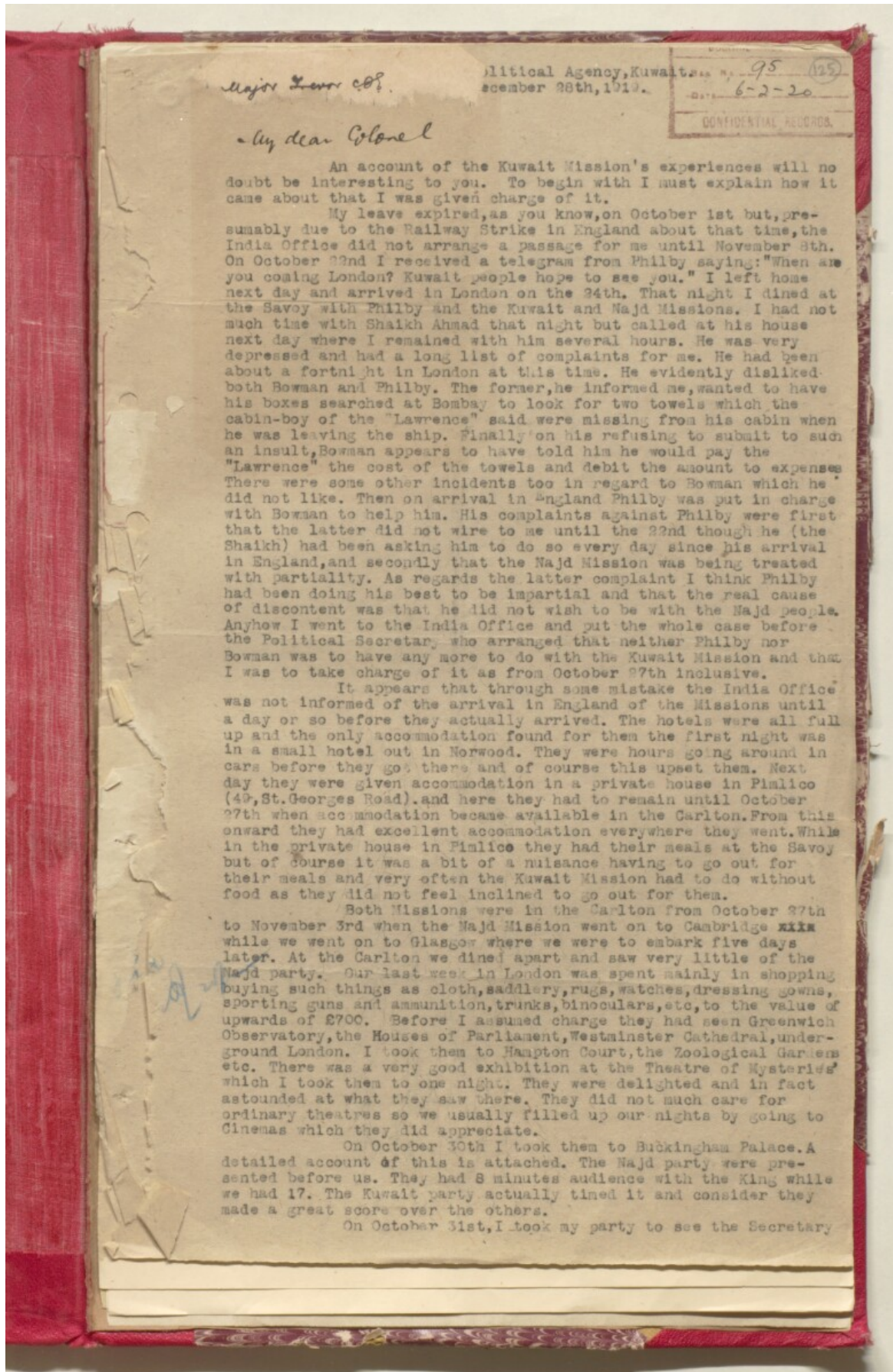
Copy to:-
D.F.S. Baghdad
D.A.G. (Civil) Baghdad
D.P.R. Bushire.
E.E.D.S.

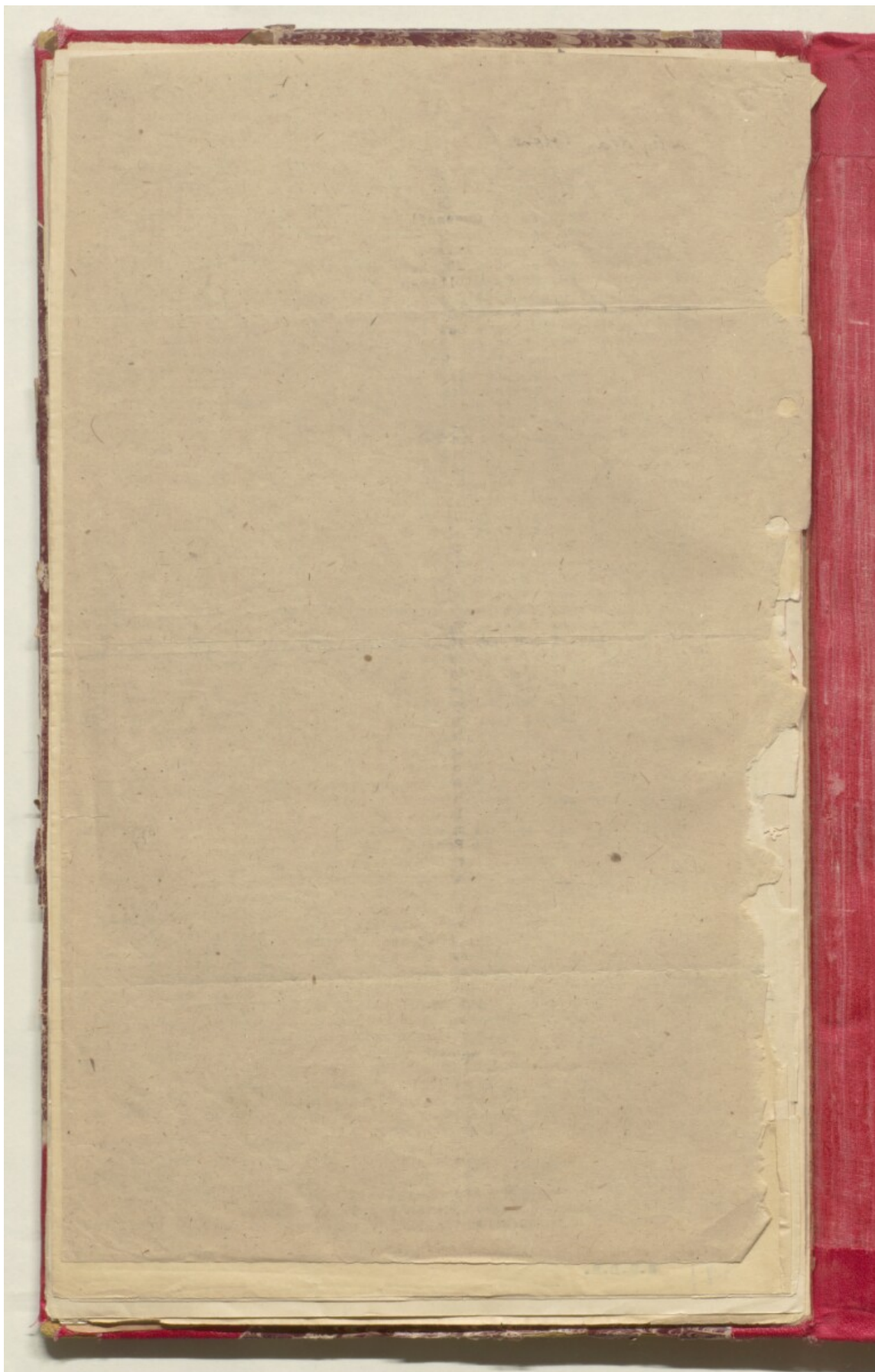
M.B. Tuleb
AL-RAT
Lieut. Col., I.A.
Ag. Civil Commissioner in Mesopotamia.



"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [١٢٤ظ] (٤٨٦/٢٥٣)









of State for India. There is nothing special to record regarding this except perhaps that the interview was a very pleasant one.

We left London on November 3rd and arrived in Glasgow next morning. Here we stayed at the Central Station Hotel. On November 5th we had luncheon at the City Chambers with the Lord Provost, aldermen and friends. After luncheon we inspected the City Chambers and then went to see the University and Art Galleries. Next day we motored to Queensferry via Edinburgh, saw the Forth Bridge and were taken through a submarine. The next day was to be our last in Britain: we visited some shipping yards and then went to the aerodrome at Renfrew. Here we saw scores of aeroplanes of different types, then exhibitions of flying and finally the Shaikh and three followers and myself went up in separate planes. We tried very hard to get the Shaikh himself to fly. He got so far as to get dressed and into one but then his courage forsook him and he made excuses saying it was not big enough for him, that he was afraid he might touch what he was told he should keep clear of, etc and finally got out. It was a great pity we could not get him to go up. Next day, November 8th we sailed from Glasgow.

The Shaikh is a very poor sailor and as we had exceptionally bad weather almost the whole of the way it cannot be said that he enjoyed his time on board. We passed a floating mine in the Mediterranean. This added to his discomfiture. He was very nervous after that until we arrived in Alexandria. We got there on the morning of November 21st.

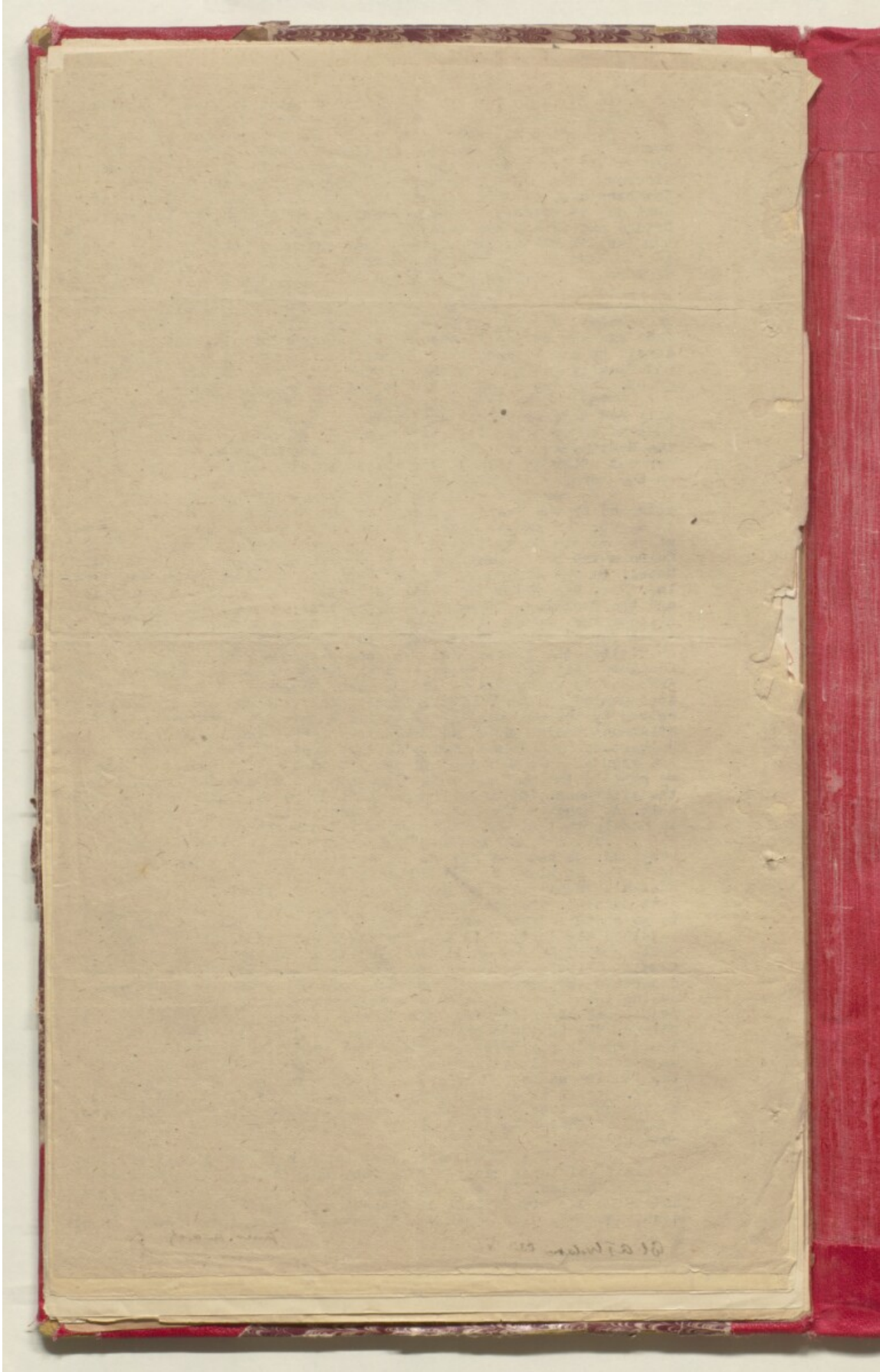
We were met by Major Gayer Anderson, R.A.M.C., an officer attached by the Residency, Cairo to the Mission during its stay in Egypt. We saw as much of Alexandria as possible that day. We stayed at the Savoy Hotel that night and next morning set out for Cairo which we reached about noon. Here we stayed at Sheppard's Hotel. In the afternoon of the first day we attended a race meeting. Next day (November 23rd) we visited the Zoological Gardens and the Pyramids. November 24th, the Mission was received by Lord Allenby who presented the Shaikh with two autographed photographs - one for himself and the other for Shaikh Salim. In the afternoon we visited the Citadel and were shown through the Mosque of Mohammed 'Ali and afterwards we attended an At Home given by the Arab Bureau in honour of the Mission. November 25th, Shaikh Ahmad accompanied by the Residency First Assistant and myself was received by the Sultan. It was quite a friendly interview. In the afternoon Shaikh Ahmad and his suite were taken to the Azar University by a Mohammedan gentleman arranged for by Major Anderson as we could not accompany them there. November 26th, we went to the Museum in the forenoon and around the bazaars in the afternoon. November 27th, we left Cairo for Suez to rejoin our ship. As however the ship did not arrive in time we had to remain in hotels that night. Next morning we embarked.

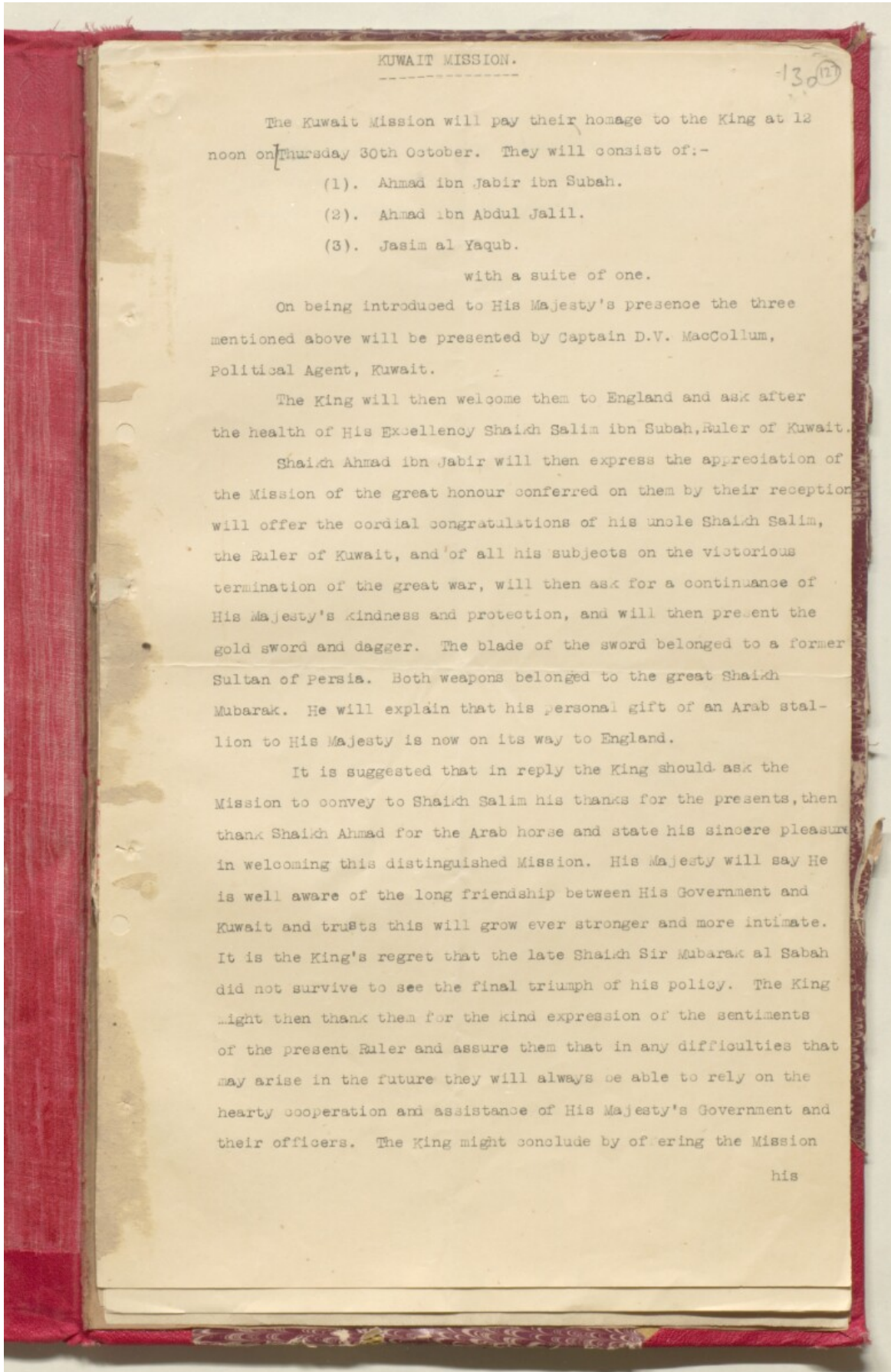
All the way up the Persian Gulf the weather was again very bad. We reached Fao bar at noon on December 10th. We got up to Fao at midnight and waited there several hours for the Shaikh's yacht which we saw on our way up. It arrived about 3 a.m. next morning. The Shaikh and his party then transhipped but I had to go on to Basrah where the "Lewis Pelly" was waiting for me. I rejoined the party next day (December 12th) and then we were weatherbound at Fao until the morning of the 15th. We got to Kuwait a little before sunset that evening. The whole town was decorated (by arrangement) and both our ships were also dressed coming in. There was a huge crowd, estimated at over 8,000 people and extending from the Agency to well beyond the Shaikh's palace. The Shaikh's battery boomed out five guns for Shaikh Ahmad as his ship dropped anchor and seven for me as I stepped ashore to pay him an arrival visit. He (Shaikh Salim) met me at the landing steps and escorted me to there again when taking my leave. Shaikh Ahmad went direct to his own house and did not even enter the Palace. Shaikh Salim was, I understand, very upset at our choice of Shaikh Ahmad. This will form the subject of a further communication.

Shaikh Ahmad is very popular in Kuwait and in view of his possible succession I am very glad Shaikh Salim was not given an option. The trip has done him a very great deal of good and if we pay him sufficient attention in the future I have no doubt when his time comes we will have a really good friend in him.

61 at Widen 25 56

James Smith





KUWAIT MISSION.

130

The Kuwait Mission will pay their homage to the King at 12 noon on Thursday 30th October. They will consist of:-

- (1). Ahmad ibn Jabir ibn Subah.
- (2). Ahmad ibn Abdul Jalil.
- (3). Jasim al Yaqub.

with a suite of one.

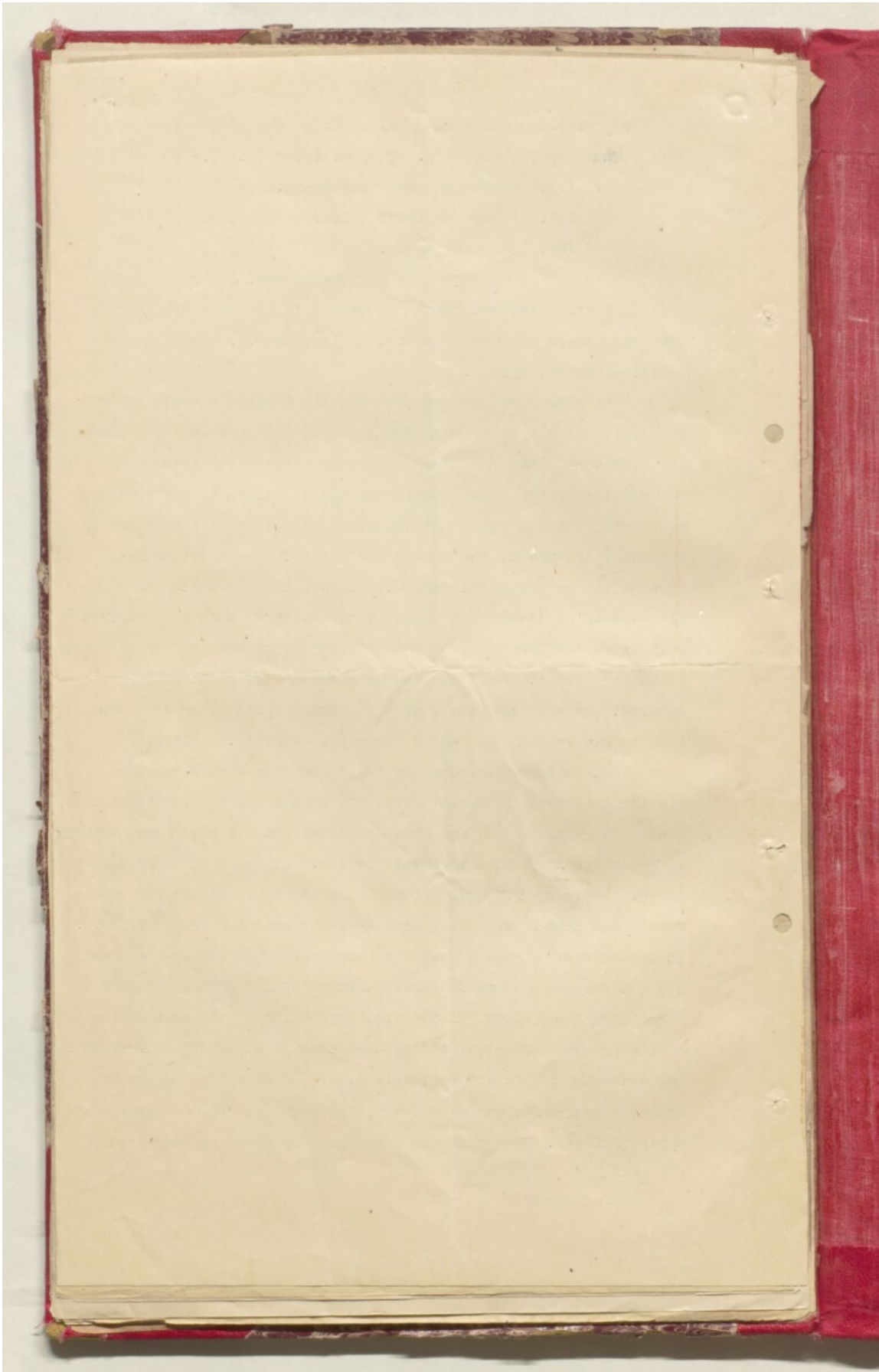
On being introduced to His Majesty's presence the three mentioned above will be presented by Captain D.V. MacCollum, Political Agent, Kuwait.

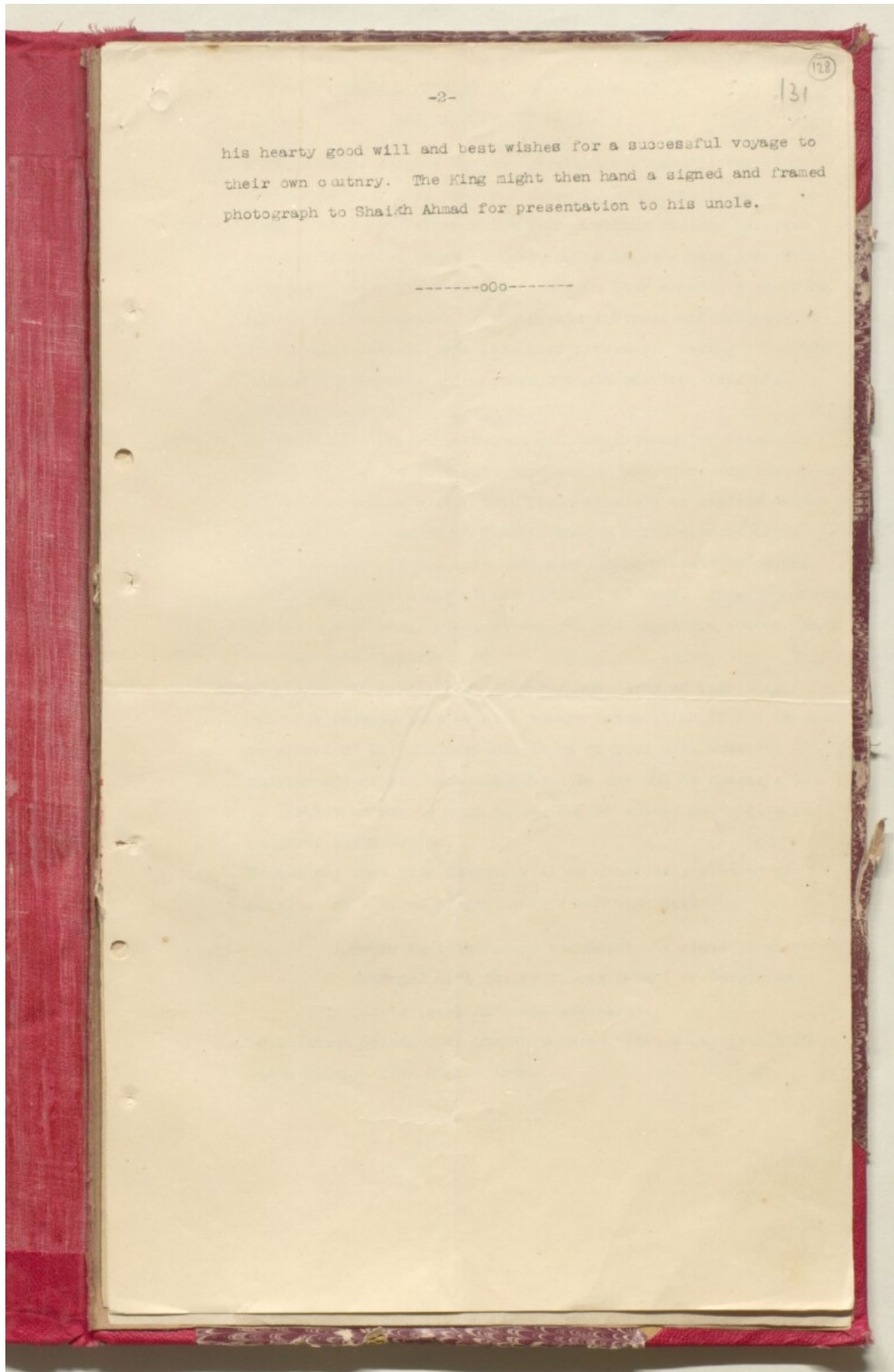
The King will then welcome them to England and ask after the health of His Excellency Shaikh Salim ibn Subah, Ruler of Kuwait.

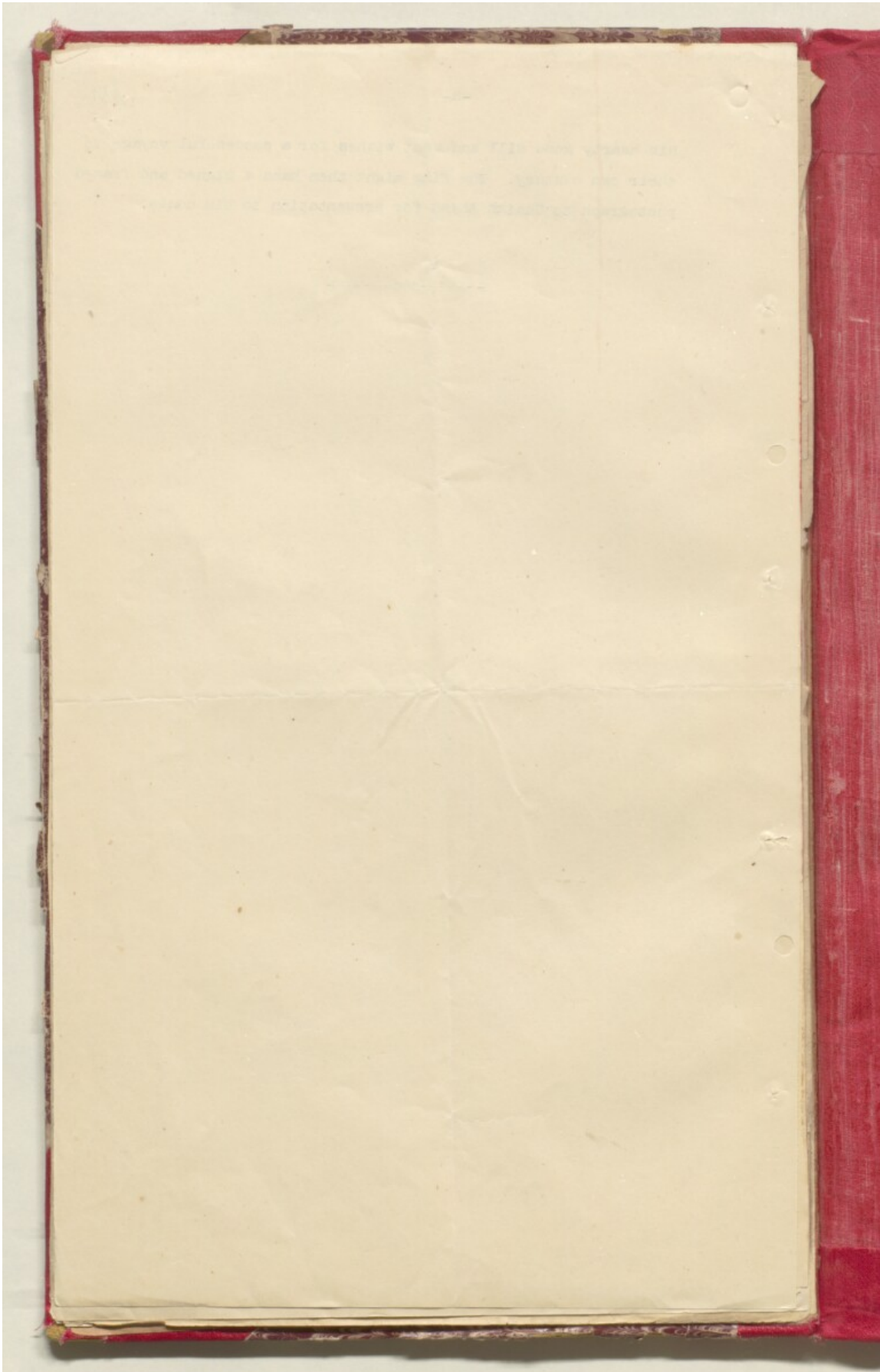
Shaikh Ahmad ibn Jabir will then express the appreciation of the Mission of the great honour conferred on them by their reception will offer the cordial congratulations of his uncle Shaikh Salim, the Ruler of Kuwait, and of all his subjects on the victorious termination of the great war, will then ask for a continuance of His Majesty's kindness and protection, and will then present the gold sword and dagger. The blade of the sword belonged to a former Sultan of Persia. Both weapons belonged to the great Shaikh Mubarak. He will explain that his personal gift of an Arab stallion to His Majesty is now on its way to England.

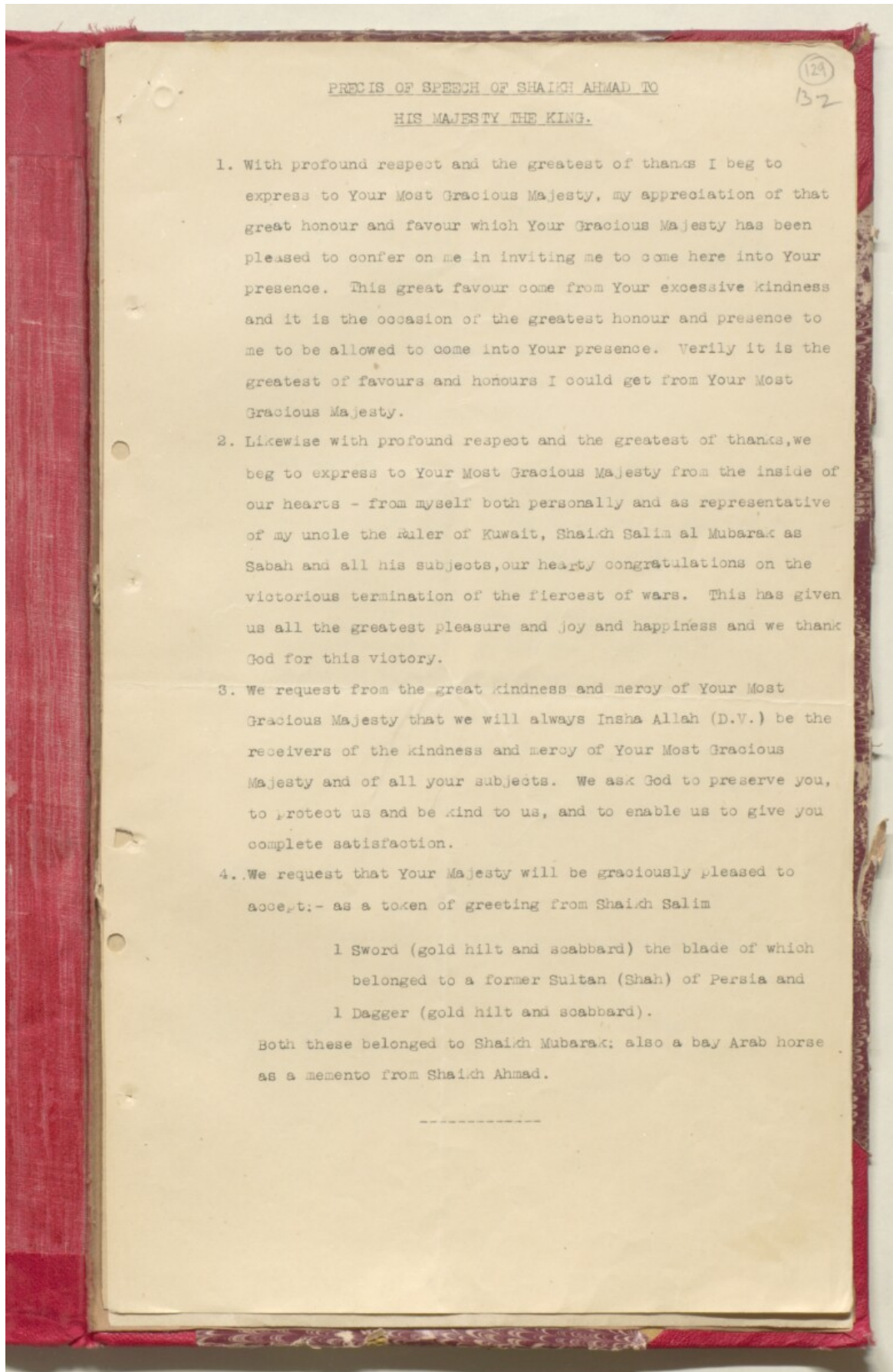
It is suggested that in reply the King should ask the Mission to convey to Shaikh Salim his thanks for the presents, then thank Shaikh Ahmad for the Arab horse and state his sincere pleasure in welcoming this distinguished Mission. His Majesty will say He is well aware of the long friendship between His Government and Kuwait and trusts this will grow ever stronger and more intimate. It is the King's regret that the late Shaikh Sir Mubarak al Sabah did not survive to see the final triumph of his policy. The King might then thank them for the kind expression of the sentiments of the present Ruler and assure them that in any difficulties that may arise in the future they will always be able to rely on the hearty cooperation and assistance of His Majesty's Government and their officers. The King might conclude by offering the Mission

his







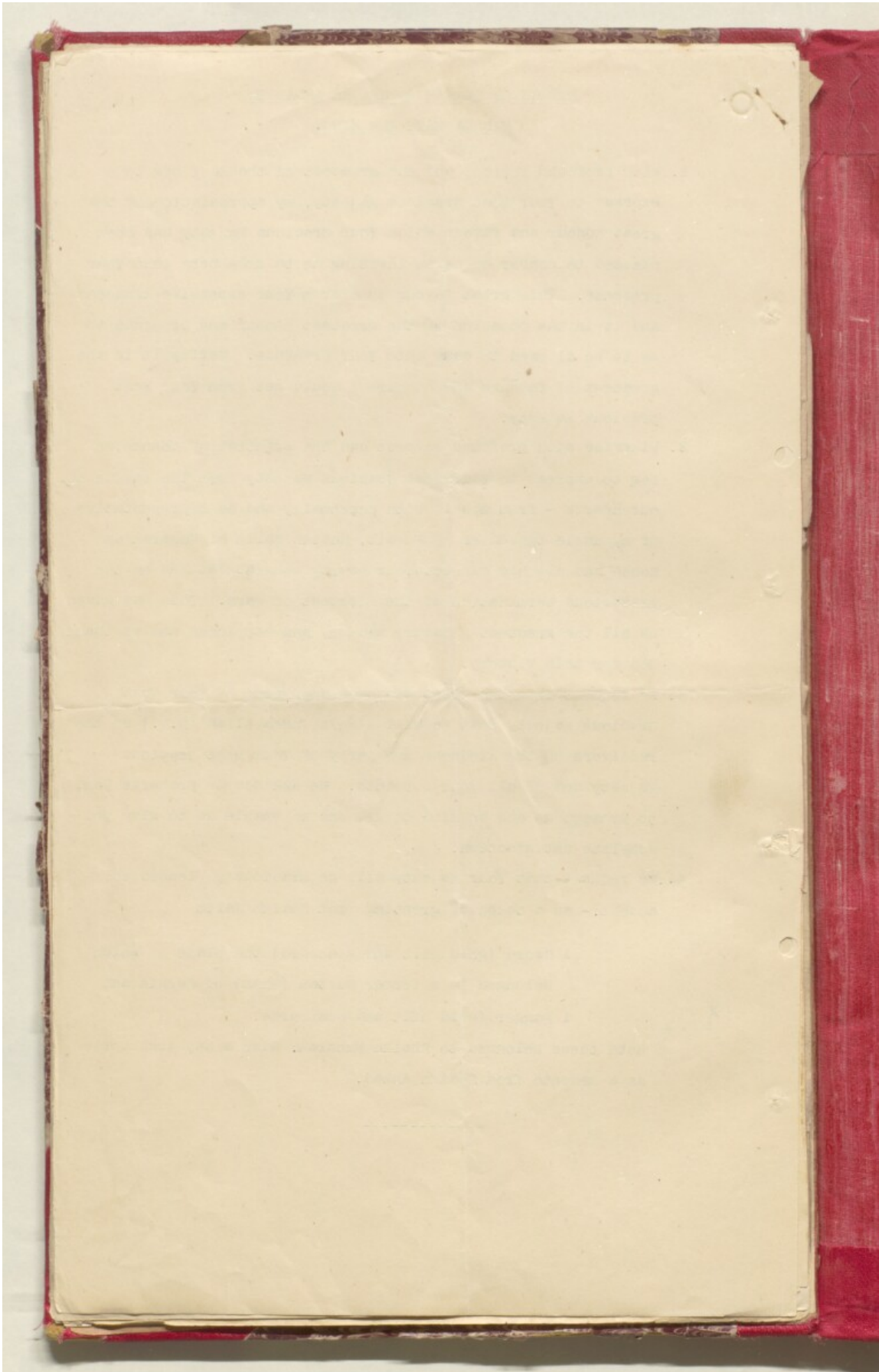


PRECIS OF SPEECH OF SHAIGH AHMAD TO
HIS MAJESTY THE KING.

1. With profound respect and the greatest of thanks I beg to express to Your Most Gracious Majesty, my appreciation of that great honour and favour which Your Gracious Majesty has been pleased to confer on me in inviting me to come here into Your presence. This great favour come from Your excessive kindness and it is the occasion of the greatest honour and presence to me to be allowed to come into Your presence. Verily it is the greatest of favours and honours I could get from Your Most Gracious Majesty.
2. Likewise with profound respect and the greatest of thanks, we beg to express to Your Most Gracious Majesty from the inside of our hearts - from myself both personally and as representative of my uncle the Ruler of Kuwait, Shaikh Salim al Mubarak as Sabah and all his subjects, our hearty congratulations on the victorious termination of the fiercest of wars. This has given us all the greatest pleasure and joy and happiness and we thank God for this victory.
3. We request from the great kindness and mercy of Your Most Gracious Majesty that we will always Insha Allah (D.V.) be the receivers of the kindness and mercy of Your Most Gracious Majesty and of all your subjects. We ask God to preserve you, to protect us and be kind to us, and to enable us to give you complete satisfaction.
4. We request that Your Majesty will be graciously pleased to accept:- as a token of greeting from Shaikh Salim

1 Sword (gold hilt and scabbard) the blade of which
belonged to a former Sultan (Shah) of Persia and
1 Dagger (gold hilt and scabbard).

Both these belonged to Shaikh Mubarak; also a bay Arab horse
as a memento from Shaikh Ahmad.





53/32. 133

No. 19/c Political Agency, Kuwait.
Dated 16th January, 1930.

CONFIDENTIAL.

To
The Civil Commissioner,
Baghdad.

Memorandum.

Dr. Mylrea has very kindly let me have a copy of an article, entitled "Shaikh Ahmad goes to England", written by him for publication in "Neglected Arabia" and probably "The Times".

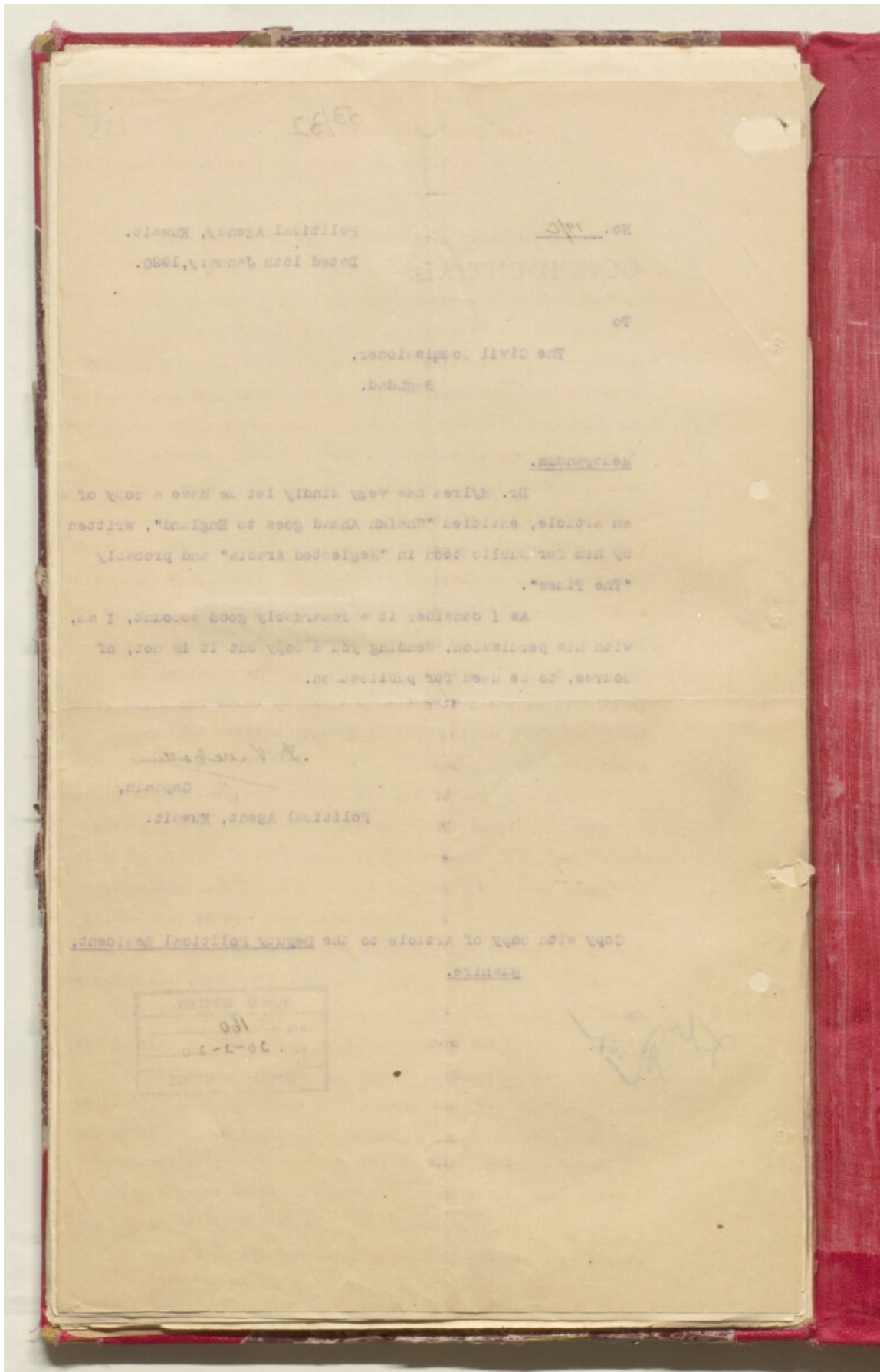
As I consider it a very interesting account, I am, with his permission, sending you a copy but it is not, of course, to be used for publication.

D. V. McCallum
Captain,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy with copy of Article to the Deputy Political Resident,
Bushire.

[Handwritten signature]

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Rec No. 160
Date 20-2-20
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.



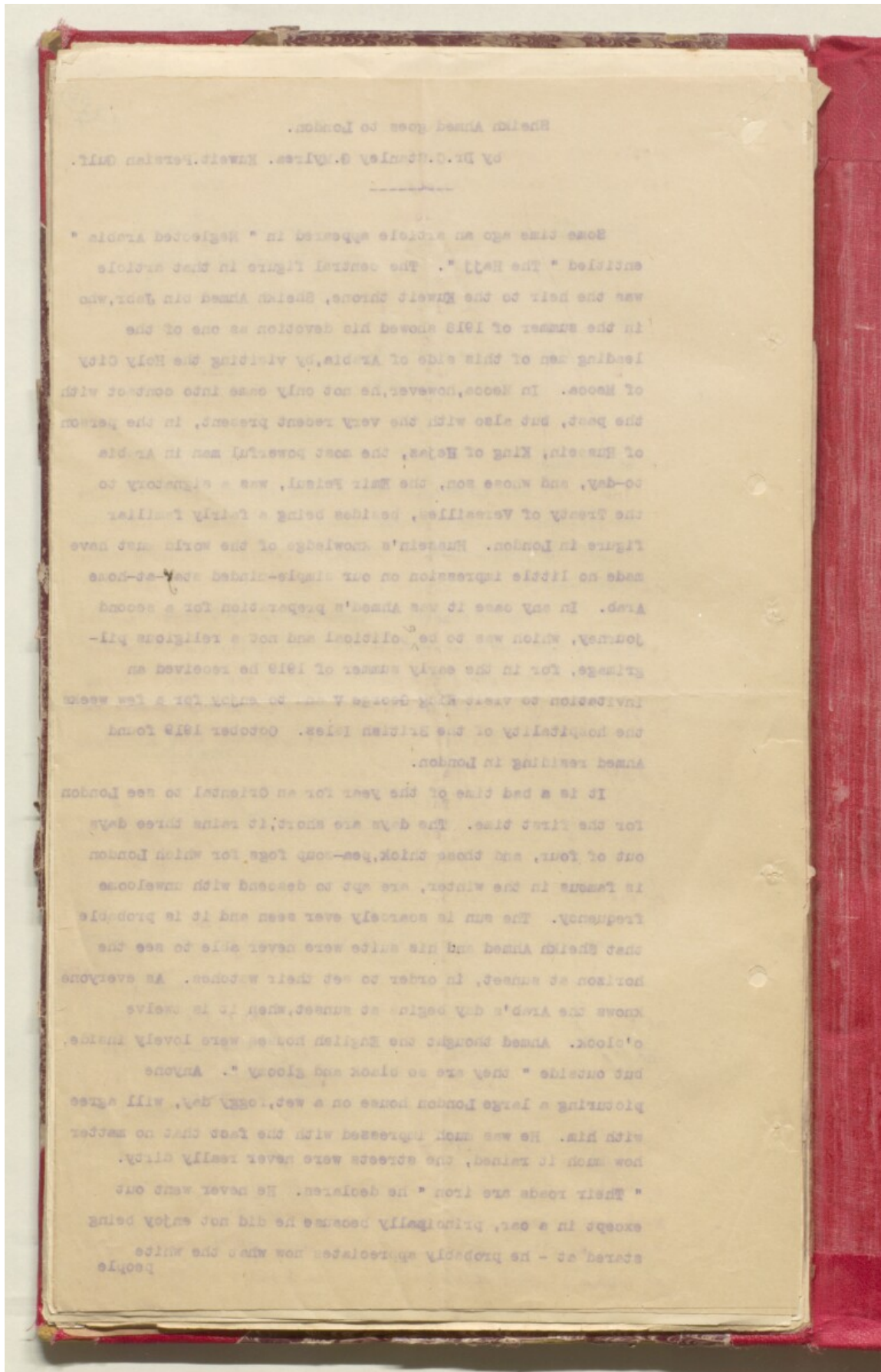


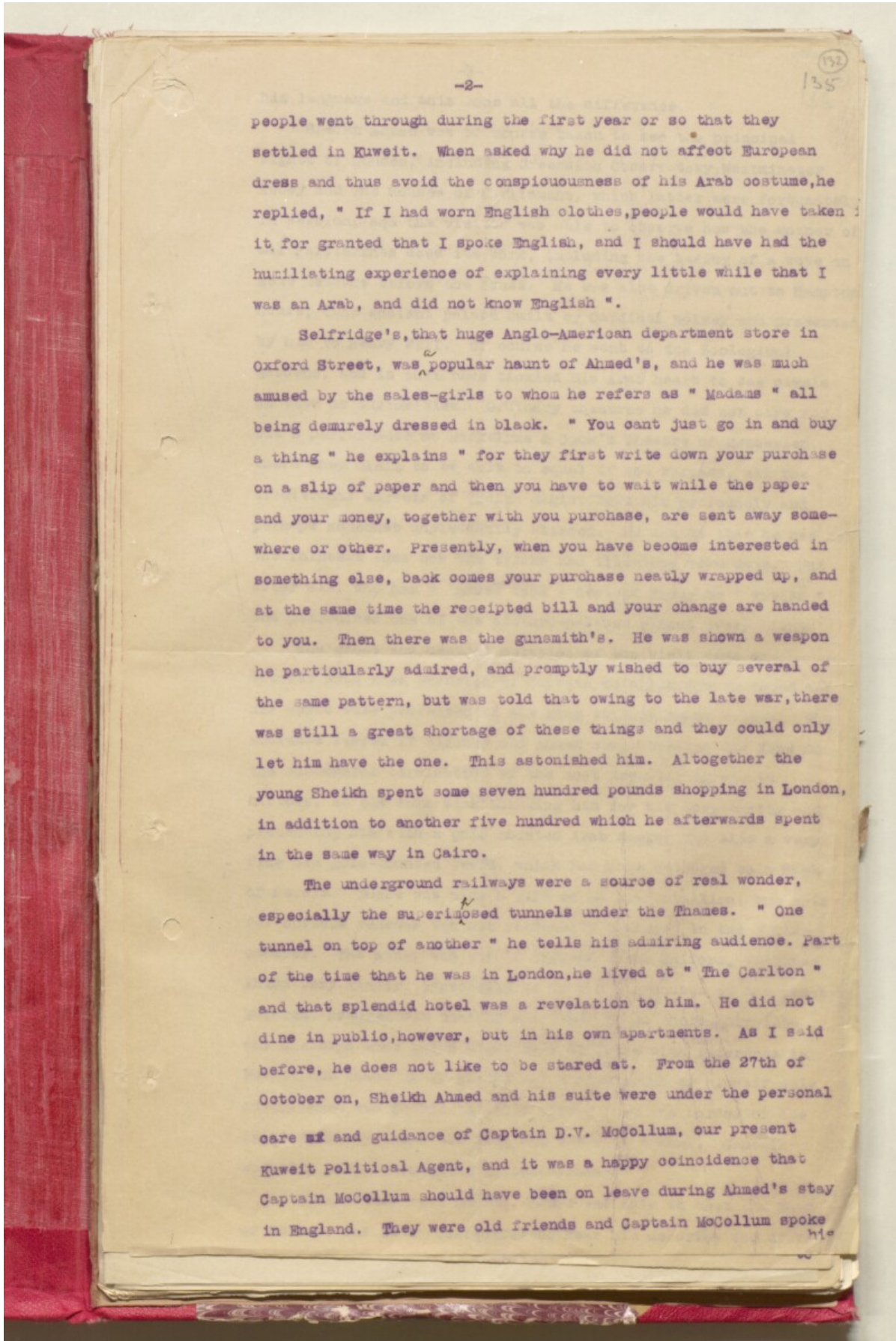
134 (3)
Sheikh Ahmed goes to London.

by Dr.C.Stanley G.Mylrea. Kuwait.Persian Gulf.

Some time ago an article appeared in " Neglected Arabia " entitled " The Hajj ". The central figure in that article was the heir to the Kuwait throne, Sheikh Ahmed bin Jabr, who in the summer of 1918 showed his devotion as one of the leading men of this side of Arabia, by visiting the Holy City of Mecca. In Mecca, however, he not only came into contact with the past, but also with the very recent present, in the person of Hussein, King of Hejaz, the most powerful man in Arabia to-day, and whose son, the Emir Feisal, was a signatory to the Treaty of Versailles, besides being a fairly familiar figure in London. Hussein's knowledge of the world must have made no little impression on our simple-minded stay-at-home Arab. In any case it was Ahmed's preparation for a second journey, which was to be political and not a religious pilgrimage, for in the early summer of 1919 he received an invitation to visit King George V and to enjoy for a few weeks the hospitality of the British Isles. October 1919 found Ahmed residing in London.

It is a bad time of the year for an Oriental to see London for the first time. The days are short, it rains three days out of four, and those thick, pea-soup fogs for which London is famous in the winter, are apt to descend with unwelcome frequency. The sun is scarcely ever seen and it is probable that Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were never able to see the horizon at sunset, in order to set their watches. As everyone knows the Arab's day begins at sunset, when it is twelve o'clock. Ahmed thought the English houses were lovely inside, but outside " they are so black and gloomy ". Anyone picturing a large London house on a wet, foggy day, will agree with him. He was much impressed with the fact that no matter how much it rained, the streets were never really dirty. " Their roads are iron " he declares. He never went out except in a car, principally because he did not enjoy being stared at - he probably appreciates now what the white people

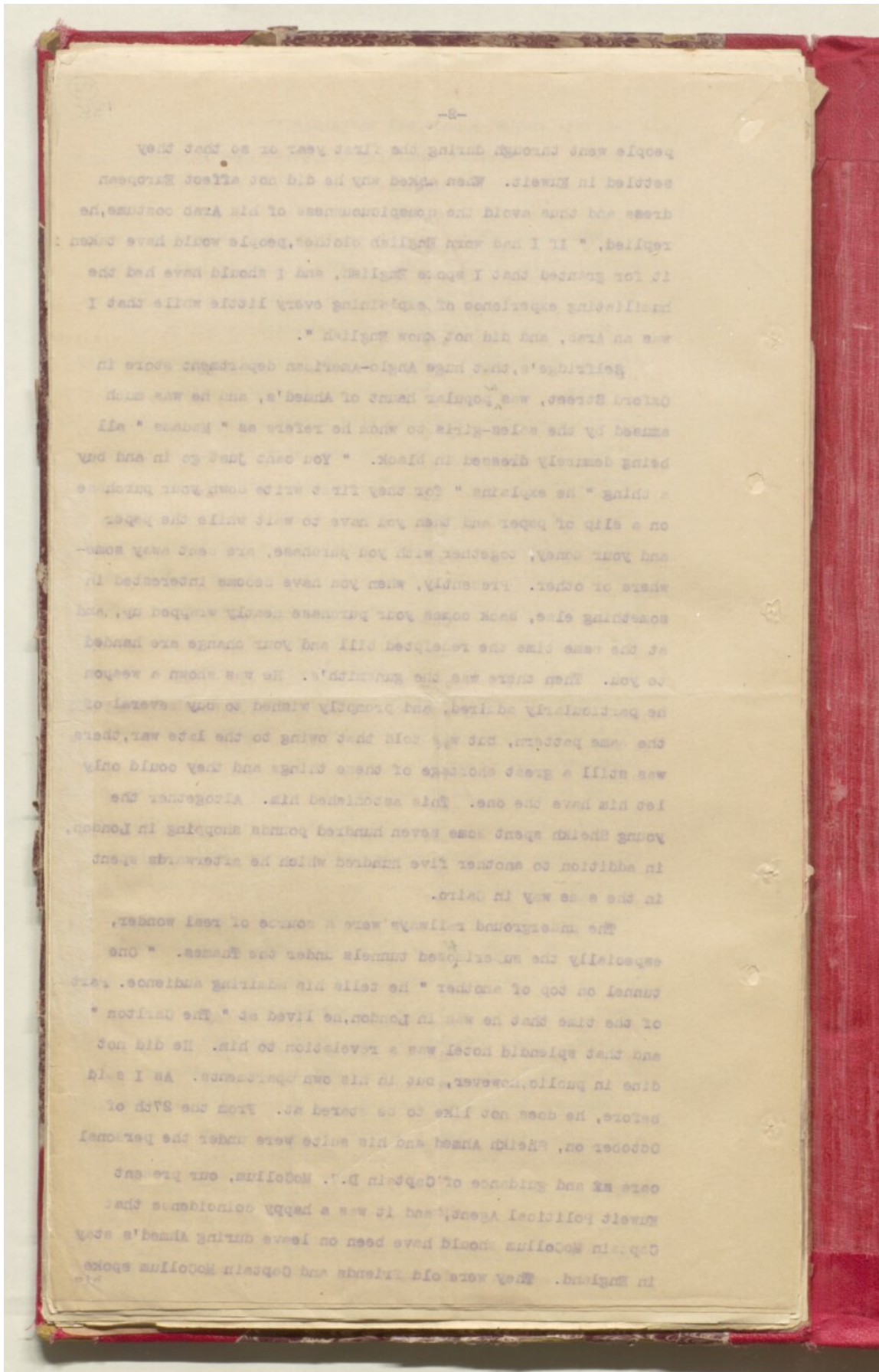




-2-
people went through during the first year or so that they settled in Kuwait. When asked why he did not affect European dress and thus avoid the conspicuousness of his Arab costume, he replied, " If I had worn English clothes, people would have taken it for granted that I spoke English, and I should have had the humiliating experience of explaining every little while that I was an Arab, and did not know English ".

Selfridge's, that huge Anglo-American department store in Oxford Street, was a popular haunt of Ahmed's, and he was much amused by the sales-girls to whom he refers as " Madams " all being demurely dressed in black. " You cant just go in and buy a thing " he explains " for they first write down your purchase on a slip of paper and then you have to wait while the paper and your money, together with you purchase, are sent away somewhere or other. Presently, when you have become interested in something else, back comes your purchase neatly wrapped up, and at the same time the receipted bill and your change are handed to you. Then there was the gunsmith's. He was shown a weapon he particularly admired, and promptly wished to buy several of the same pattern, but was told that owing to the late war, there was still a great shortage of these things and they could only let him have the one. This astonished him. Altogether the young Sheikh spent some seven hundred pounds shopping in London, in addition to another five hundred which he afterwards spent in the same way in Cairo.

The underground railways were a source of real wonder, especially the superimposed tunnels under the Thames. " One tunnel on top of another " he tells his admiring audience. Part of the time that he was in London, he lived at " The Carlton " and that splendid hotel was a revelation to him. He did not dine in public, however, but in his own apartments. As I said before, he does not like to be stared at. From the 27th of October on, Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were under the personal care ~~of~~ and guidance of Captain D.V. McCollum, our present Kuwait Political Agent, and it was a happy coincidence that Captain McCollum should have been on leave during Ahmed's stay in England. They were old friends and Captain McCollum spoke





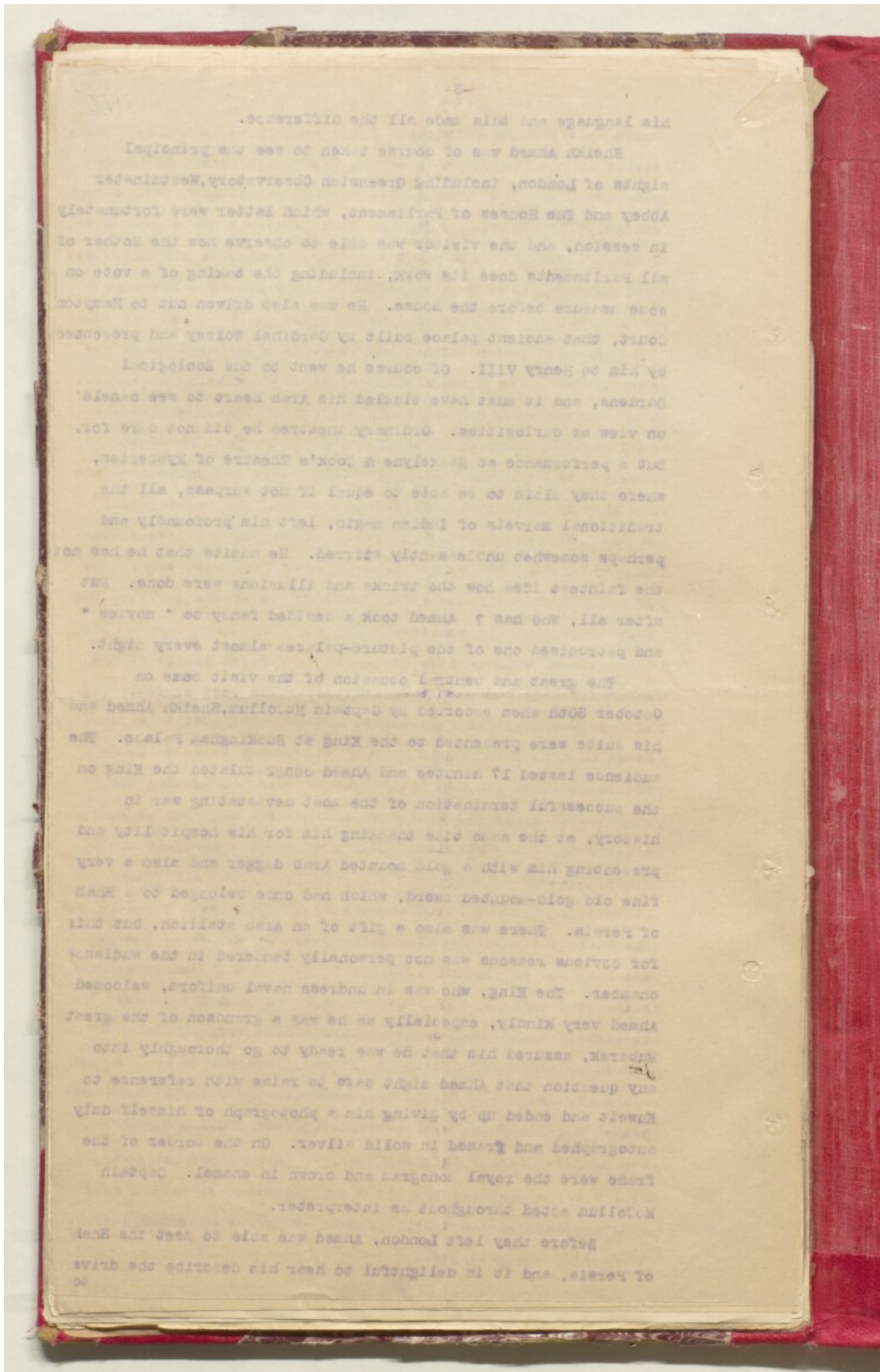
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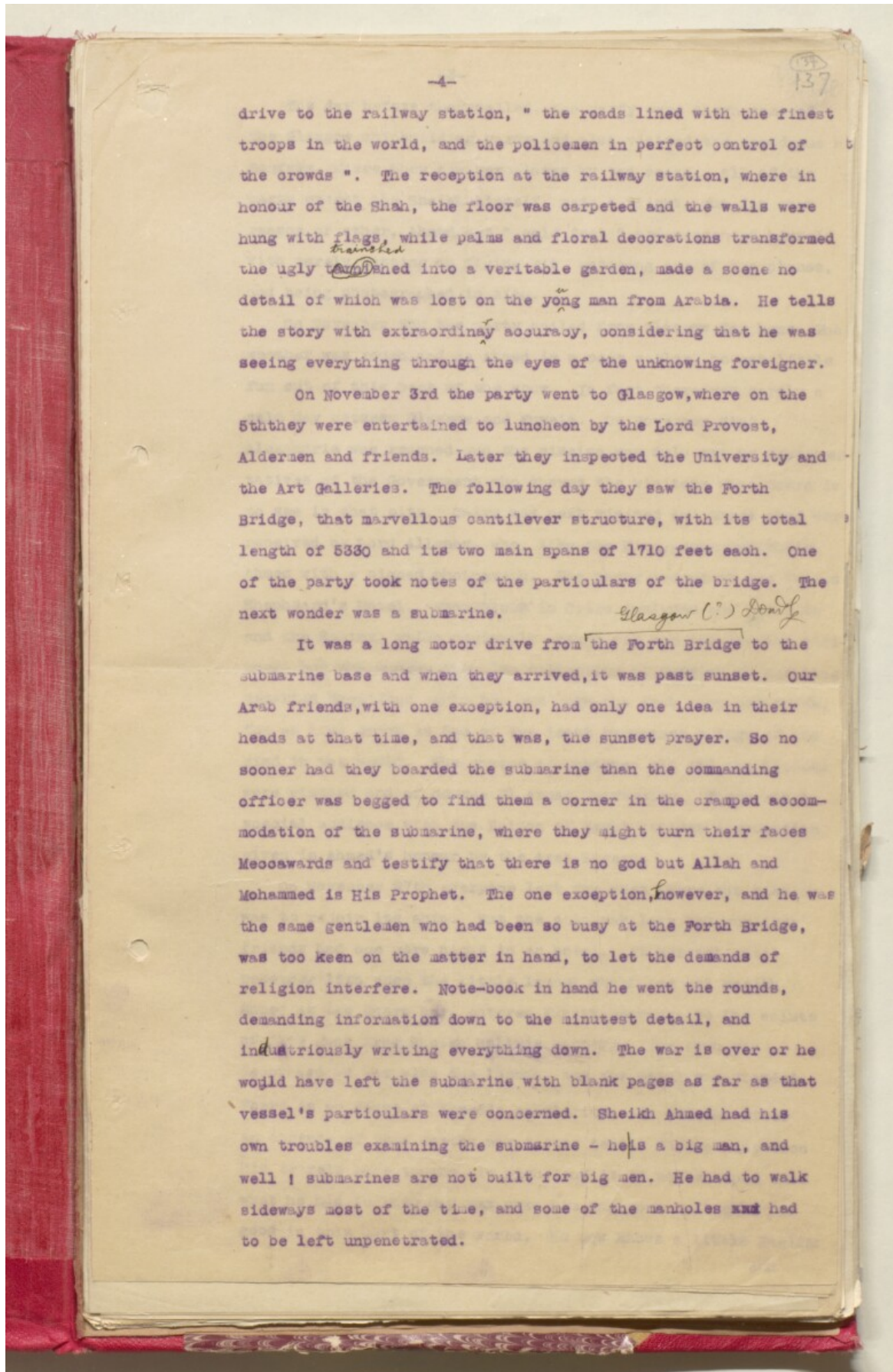
his language and this made all the difference.

Sheikh Ahmed was of course taken to see the principal sights of London, including Greenwich Observatory, Westminster Abbey and The Houses of Parliament, which latter were fortunately in session, and the visitor was able to observe how the Mother of all Parliaments does its work, including the taking of a vote on some measure before the house. He was also driven out to Hampton Court, that ancient palace built by Cardinal Wolsey and presented by him to Henry VIII. Of course he went to the Zoological Gardens, and it must have tickled his Arab heart to see camels on view as curiosities. Ordinary theatres he did not care for, but a performance at Maskelyne & Cook's Theatre of Mysteries, where they claim to be able to equal if not surpass, all the traditional marvels of Indian magic, left him profoundly and perhaps somewhat unpleasantly stirred. He admits that he has not the faintest idea how the tricks and illusions were done. But after all, who has? Ahmed took a decided fancy to "movies" and patronised one of the picture-palaces almost every night.

The great and central occasion of the visit came on October 30th when escorted by Captain McCollum, Sheikh Ahmed and his suite were presented to the King at Buckingham Palace. The audience lasted 17 minutes and Ahmed congratulated the King on the successful termination of the most devastating war in history, at the same time thanking him for his hospitality and presenting him with a gold mounted Arab dagger and also a very fine old gold-mounted sword, which had once belonged to a Shah of Persia. There was also a gift of an Arab stallion, but this for obvious reasons was not personally tendered in the audience chamber. The King, who was in undress naval uniform, welcomed Ahmed very kindly, especially as he was a grandson of the great Mubarek, assured him that he was ready to go thoroughly into any question that Ahmed might care to raise with reference to Kuwait and ended up by giving him a photograph of himself duly autographed and framed in solid silver. On the border of the frame were the royal monogram and crown in enamel. Captain McCollum acted throughout as interpreter.

Before they left London, Ahmed was able to meet the Shah of Persia, and it is delightful to hear him describe the drive to

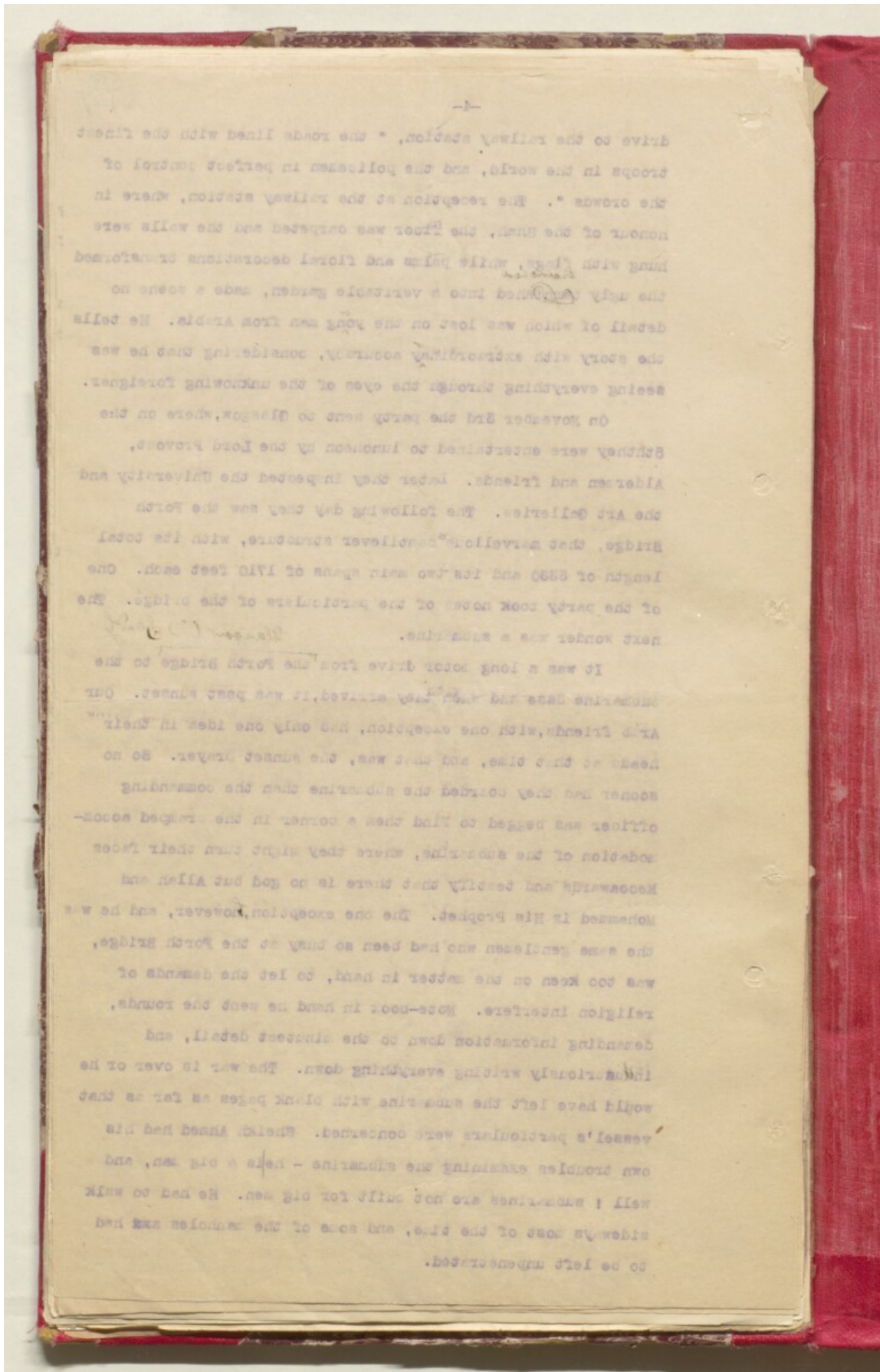




drive to the railway station, " the roads lined with the finest troops in the world, and the policemen in perfect control of the crowds ". The reception at the railway station, where in honour of the Shah, the floor was carpeted and the walls were hung with flags, while palms and floral decorations transformed the ugly ~~land~~ ^{transferred} into a veritable garden, made a scene no detail of which was lost on the young man from Arabia. He tells the story with extraordinary accuracy, considering that he was seeing everything through the eyes of the unknowing foreigner.

On November 3rd the party went to Glasgow, where on the 5th they were entertained to luncheon by the Lord Provost, Aldermen and friends. Later they inspected the University and the Art Galleries. The following day they saw the Forth Bridge, that marvellous cantilever structure, with its total length of 5330 and its two main spans of 1710 feet each. One of the party took notes of the particulars of the bridge. The next wonder was a submarine.

It was a long motor drive from the Forth Bridge to the submarine base and when they arrived, it was past sunset. Our Arab friends, with one exception, had only one idea in their heads at that time, and that was, the sunset prayer. So no sooner had they boarded the submarine than the commanding officer was begged to find them a corner in the cramped accommodation of the submarine, where they might turn their faces Meccawards and testify that there is no god but Allah and Mohammed is His Prophet. The one exception, however, and he was the same gentleman who had been so busy at the Forth Bridge, was too keen on the matter in hand, to let the demands of religion interfere. Note-book in hand he went the rounds, demanding information down to the minutest detail, and industriously writing everything down. The war is over or he would have left the submarine with blank pages as far as that vessel's particulars were concerned. Sheikh Ahmed had his own troubles examining the submarine - he is a big man, and well ; submarines are not built for big men. He had to walk sideways most of the time, and some of the manholes had to be left unpenetrated.





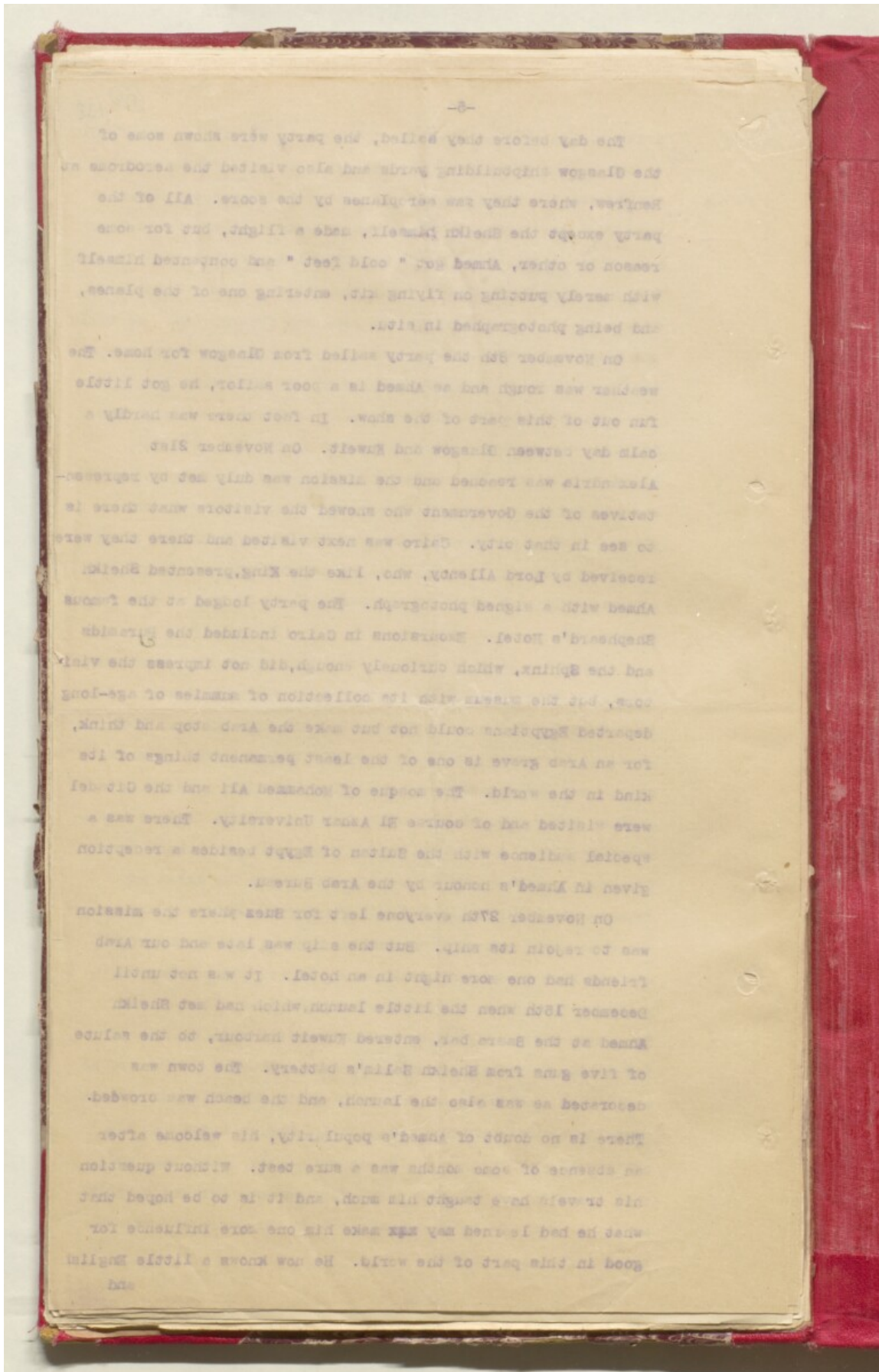
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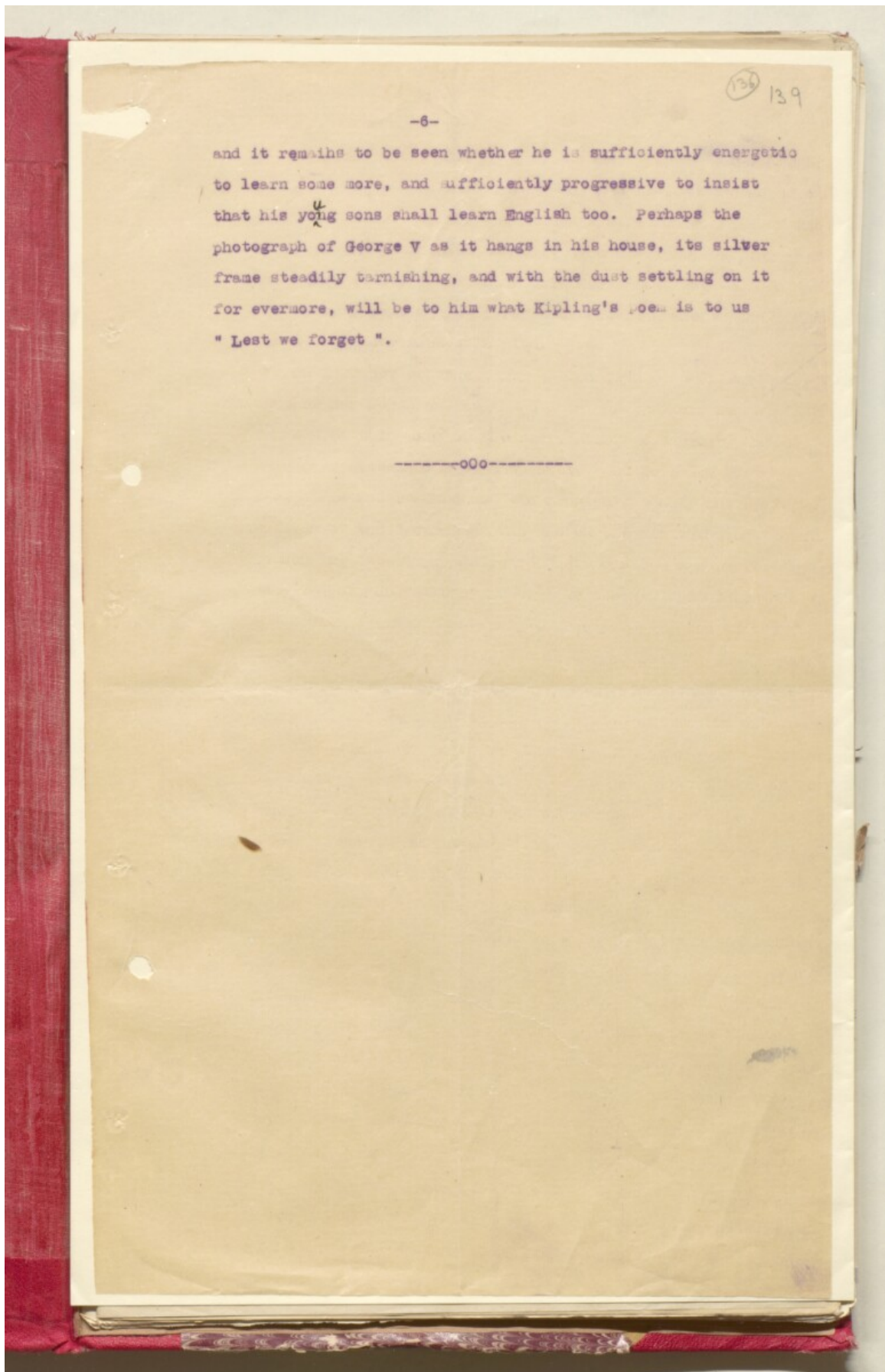
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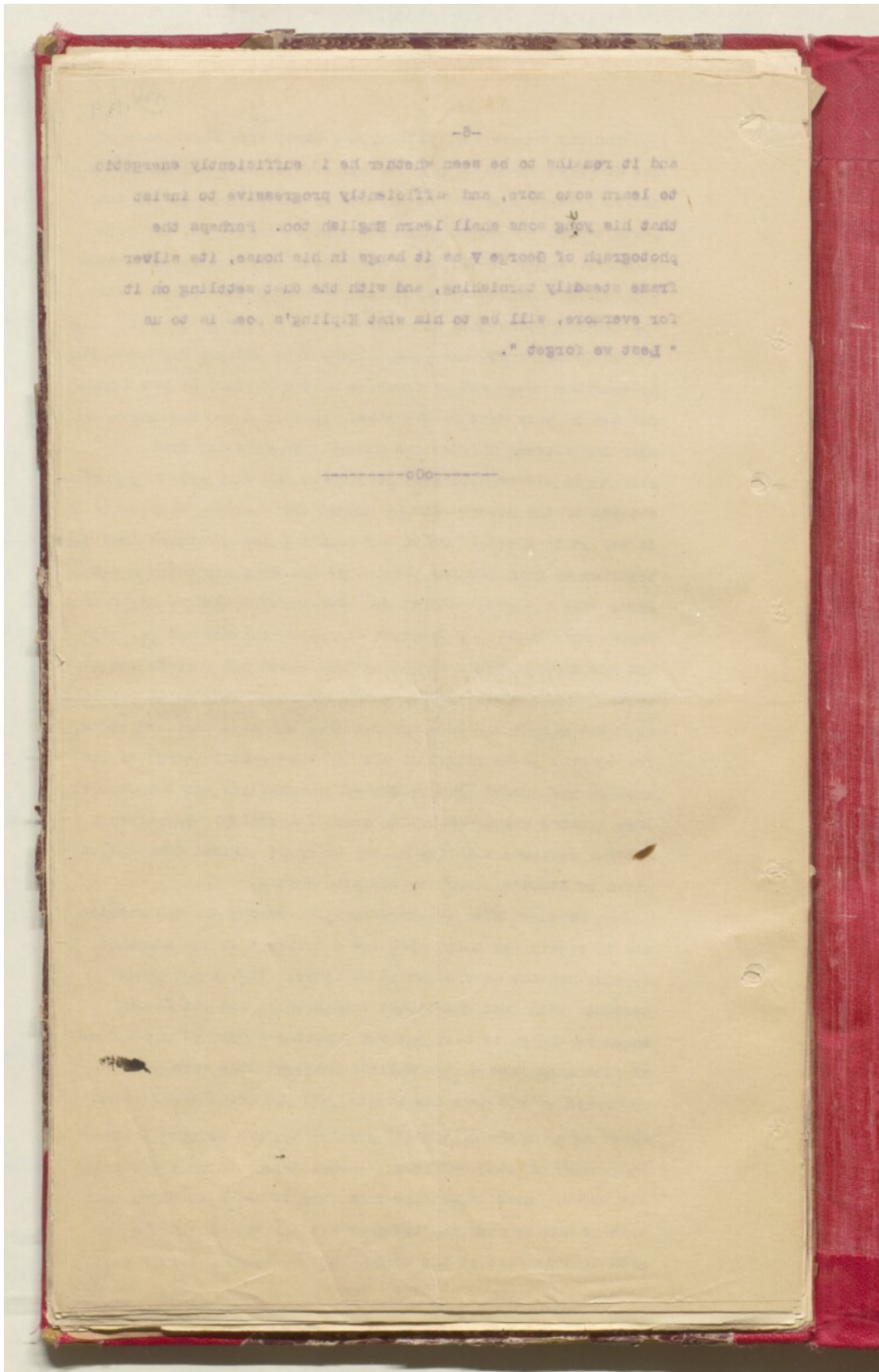
The day before they sailed, the party were shown some of the Glasgow shipbuilding yards and also visited the aerodrome at Renfrew, where they saw aeroplanes by the score. All of the party except the Sheikh himself, made a flight, but for some reason or other, Ahmed got " cold feet " and contented himself with merely putting on flying kit, entering one of the planes, and being photographed in situ.

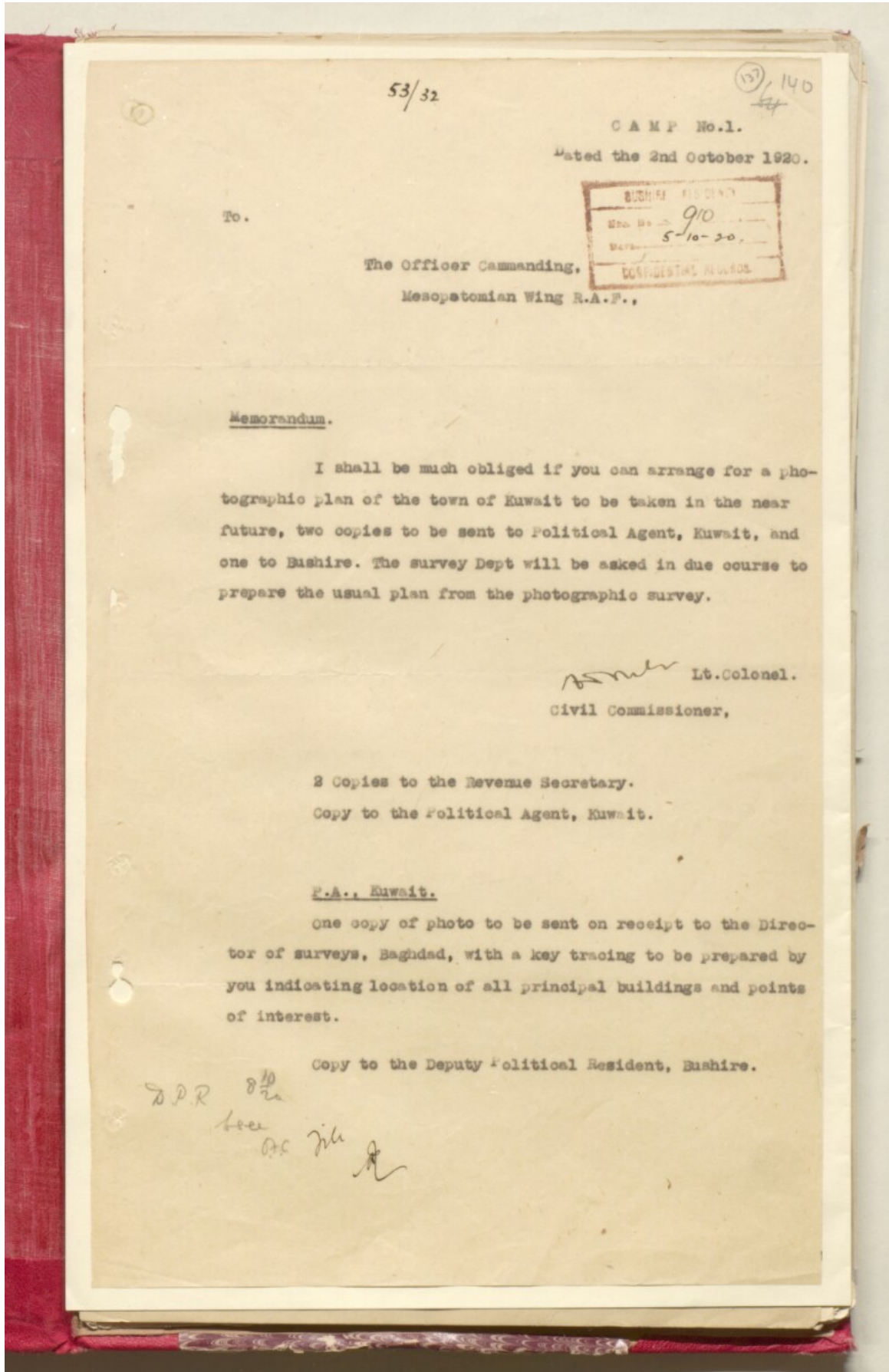
On November 8th the party sailed from Glasgow for home. The weather was rough and as Ahmed is a poor sailor, he got little fun out of this part of the show. In fact there was hardly a calm day between Glasgow and Kuwait. On November 21st Alexandria was reached and the mission was duly met by representatives of the Government who showed the visitors what there is to see in that city. - Cairo was next visited and there they were received by Lord Allenby, who, like the King, presented Sheikh Ahmed with a signed photograph. The party lodged at the famous Shepherd's Hotel. Excursions in Cairo included the Pyramids and the Sphinx, which curiously enough, did not impress the visitors, but the museum with its collection of mummies of age-long departed Egyptians could not but make the Arab stop and think, for an Arab grave is one of the least permanent things of its kind in the world. The mosque of Mohammed Ali and the Citadel were visited and of course El Azhar University. There was a special audience with the Sultan of Egypt besides a reception given in Ahmed's honour by the Arab Bureau.

On November 27th everyone left for Suez where the mission was to rejoin its ship. But the ship was late and our Arab friends had one more night in an hotel. It was not until December 15th when the little launch, which had met Sheikh Ahmed at the Basra bar, entered Kuwait harbour, to the salute of five guns from Sheikh Salim's battery. The town was decorated as was also the launch, and the beach was crowded. There is no doubt of Ahmed's popularity, his welcome after an absence of some months was a sure test. Without question his travels have taught him much, and it is to be hoped that what he had learned may ~~max~~ make him one more influence for good in this part of the world. He now knows a little English and









53/32

(137) 140

CAMP No. 1.

Dated the 2nd October 1920.

To.

The Officer Commanding,
Mesopotamian Wing R.A.F.,

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
No. 9/10
Date 5-10-20
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

Memorandum.

I shall be much obliged if you can arrange for a photographic plan of the town of Kuwait to be taken in the near future, two copies to be sent to Political Agent, Kuwait, and one to Bushire. The survey Dept will be asked in due course to prepare the usual plan from the photographic survey.

[Signature] Lt. Colonel.
Civil Commissioner,

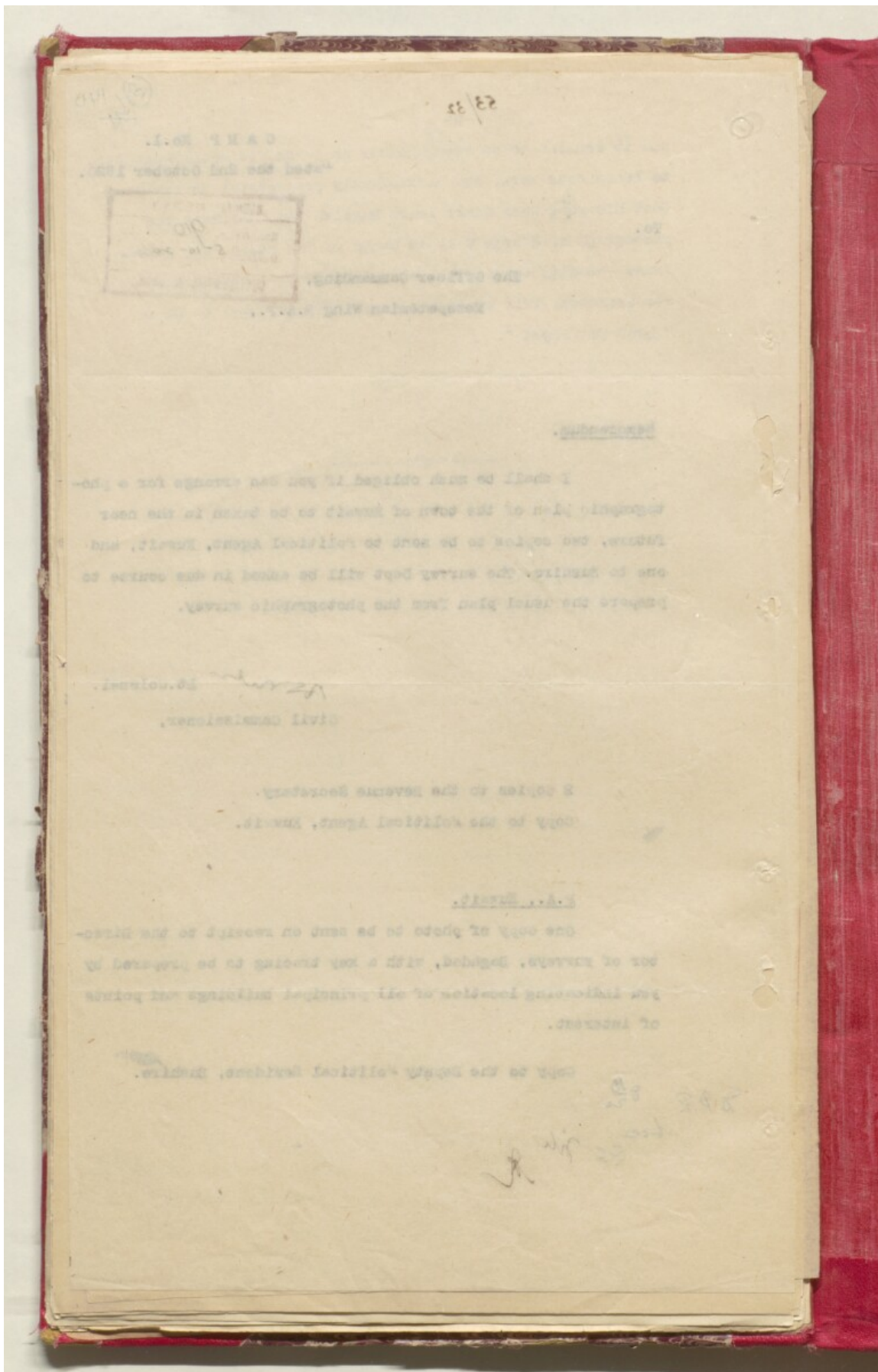
2 Copies to the Revenue Secretary.
Copy to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

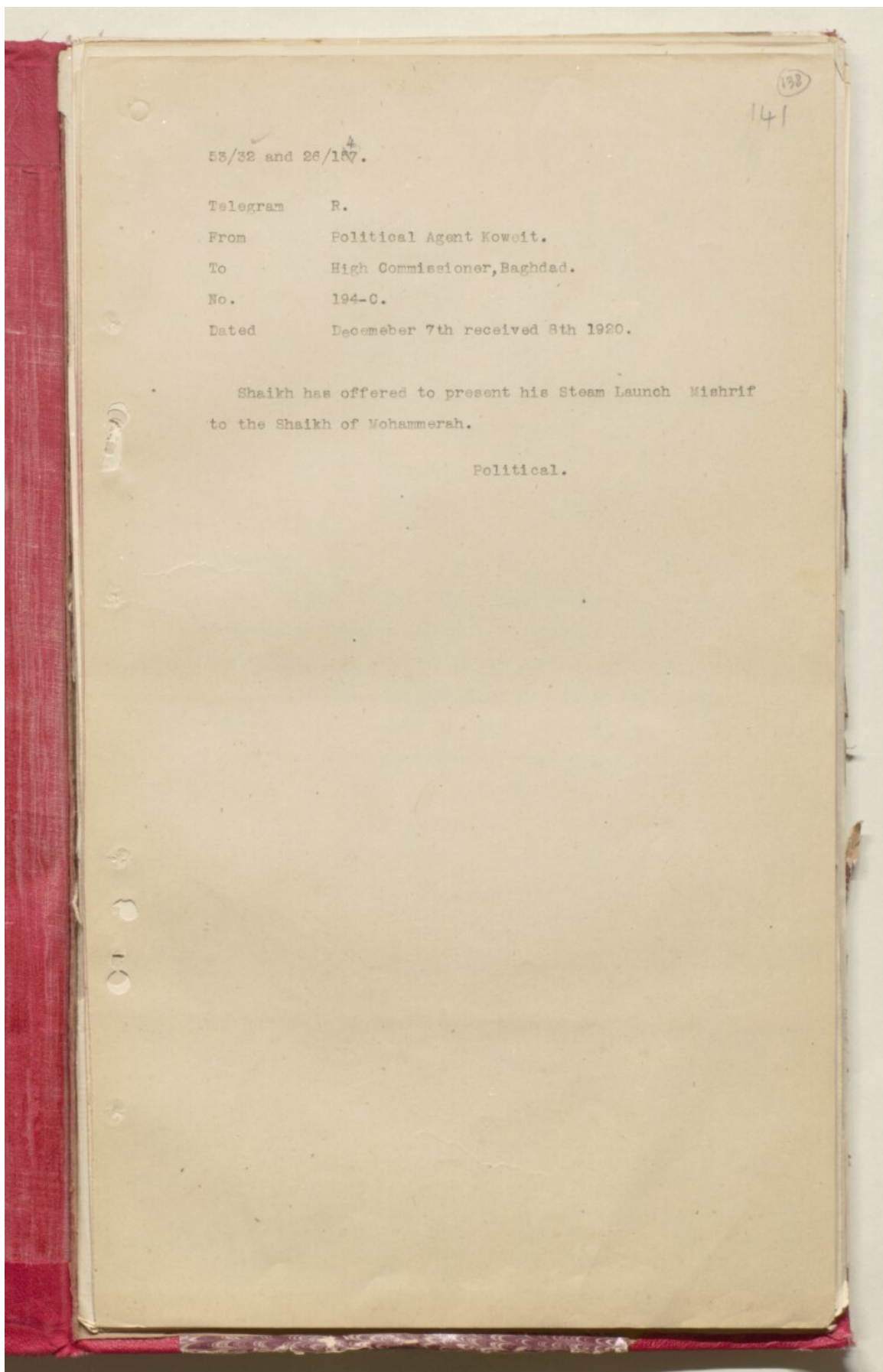
P.A., Kuwait.

One copy of photo to be sent on receipt to the Director of surveys, Baghdad, with a key tracing to be prepared by you indicating location of all principal buildings and points of interest.

Copy to the Deputy Political Resident, Bushire.

DP R 8/10
see
of file
[Signature]



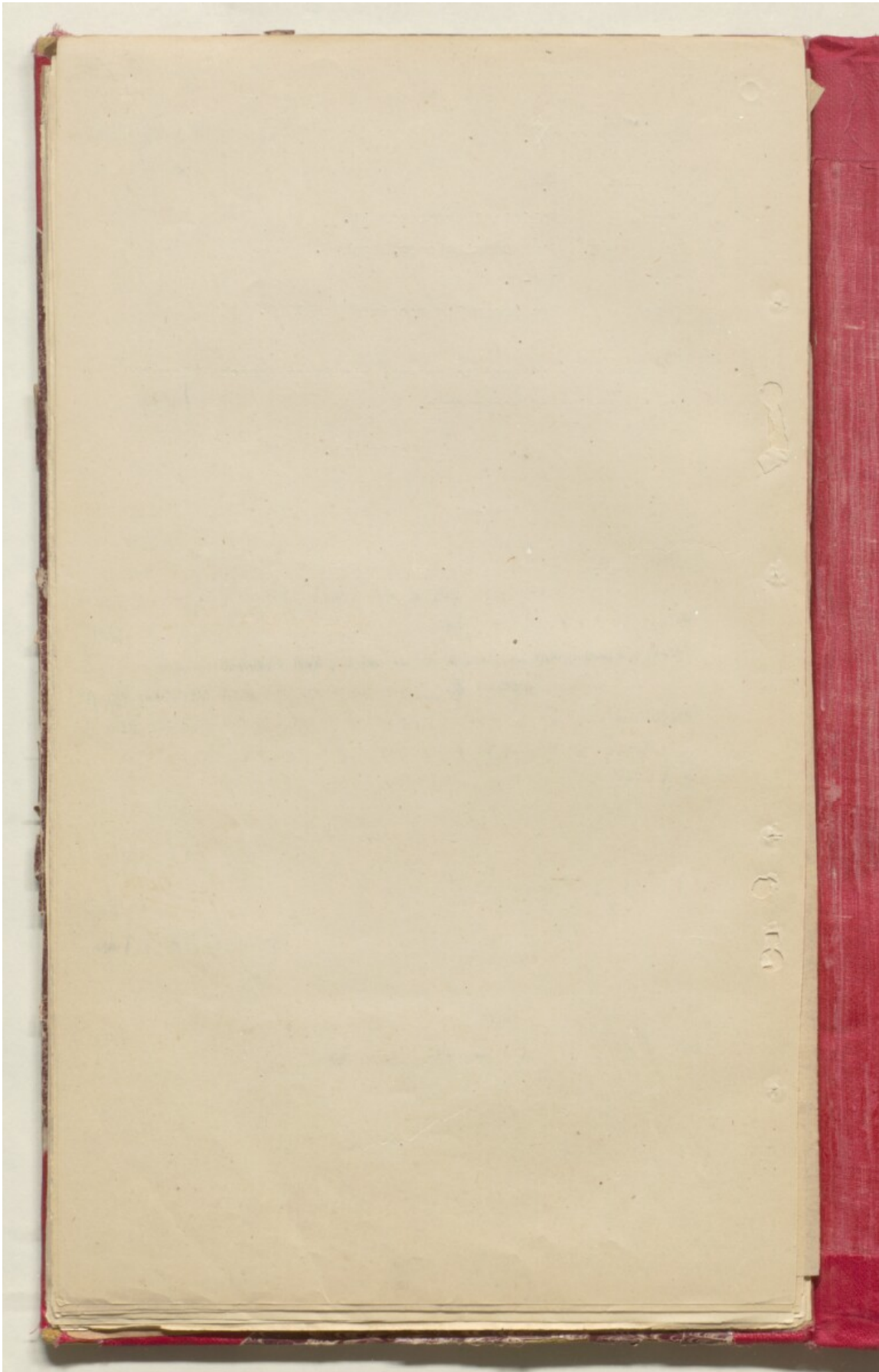


53/32 and 26/187.

Telegram R.
From Political Agent Koweit.
To High Commissioner, Baghdad.
No. 194-C.
Dated Decemeber 7th received 8th 1920.

Shaikh has offered to present his Steam Launch Mishrif
to the Shaikh of Mohammerah.

Political.





CONFIDENTIAL

No. 65-3. Political Agency, Kuwait.
16th April 1921.

53/32 142 (39)

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
No. 262
Date 2.5.21
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS

To
The Political Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner,
BAGHDAD.

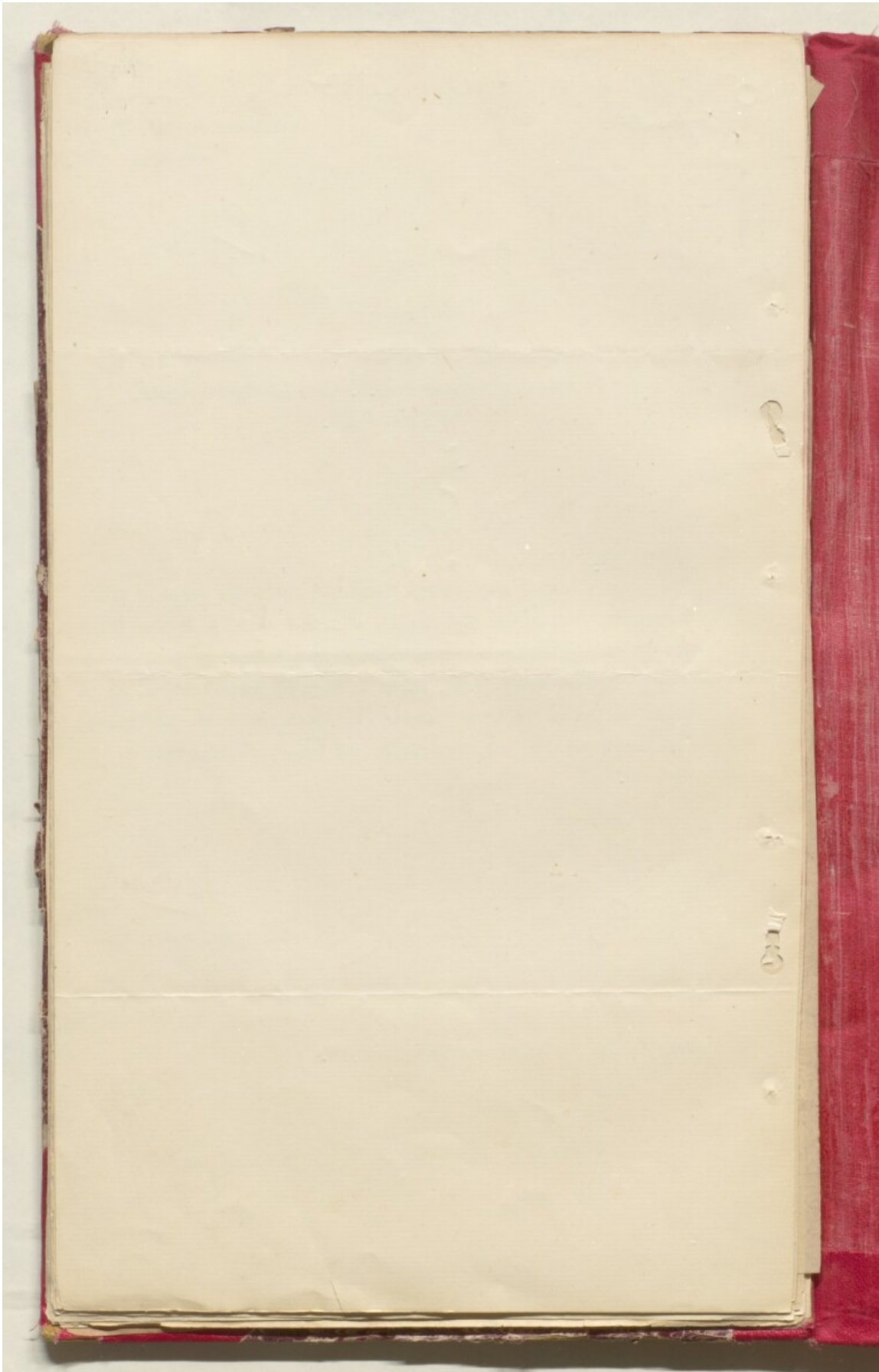
MEMORANDUM

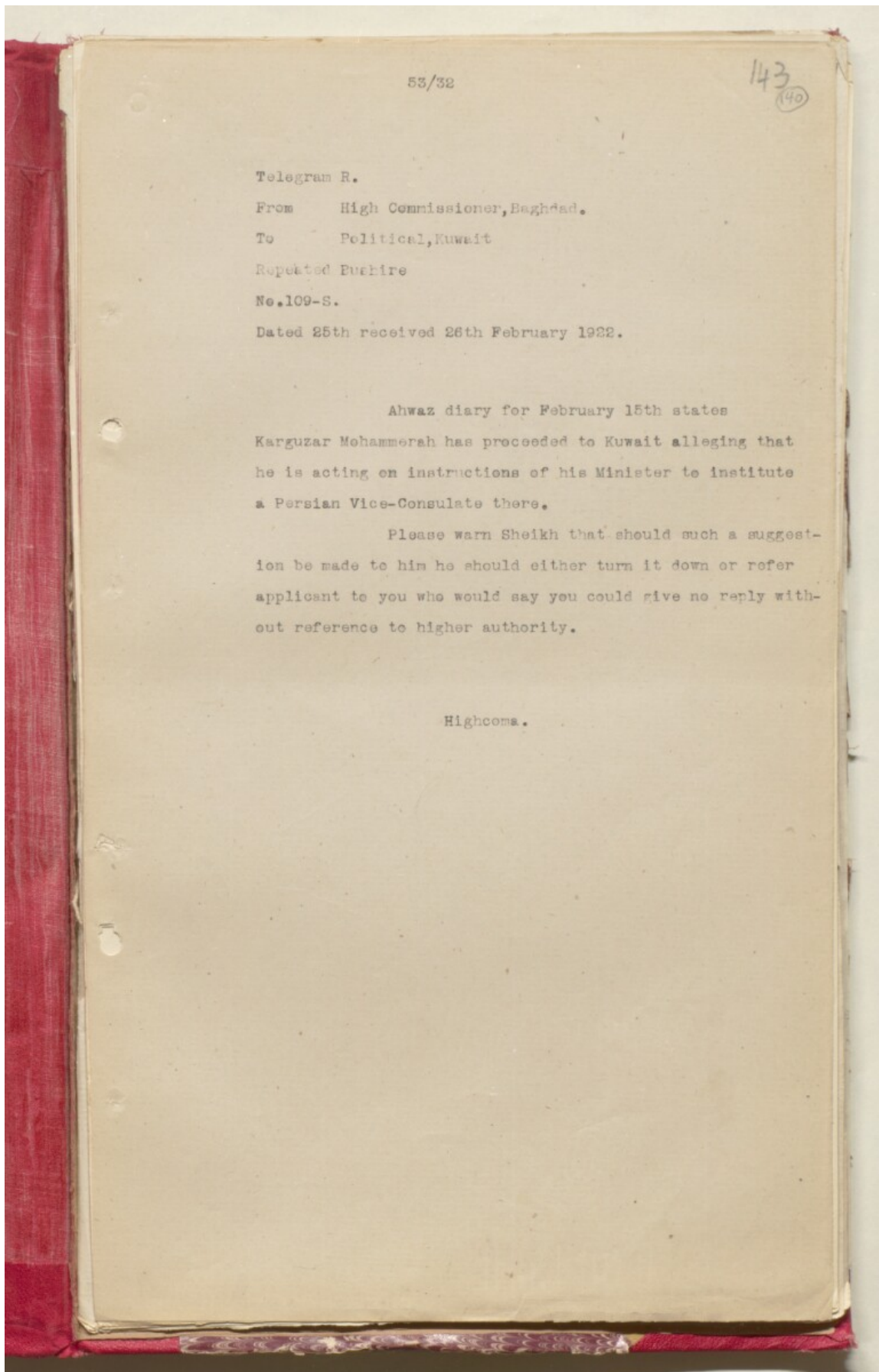
I notice that Shaikh Ahmad has added the words of the Muhammadan Profession of Faith (لا اله الا الله محمد رسول الله) to the Kuwait Flag which he flies in front of his Palace.

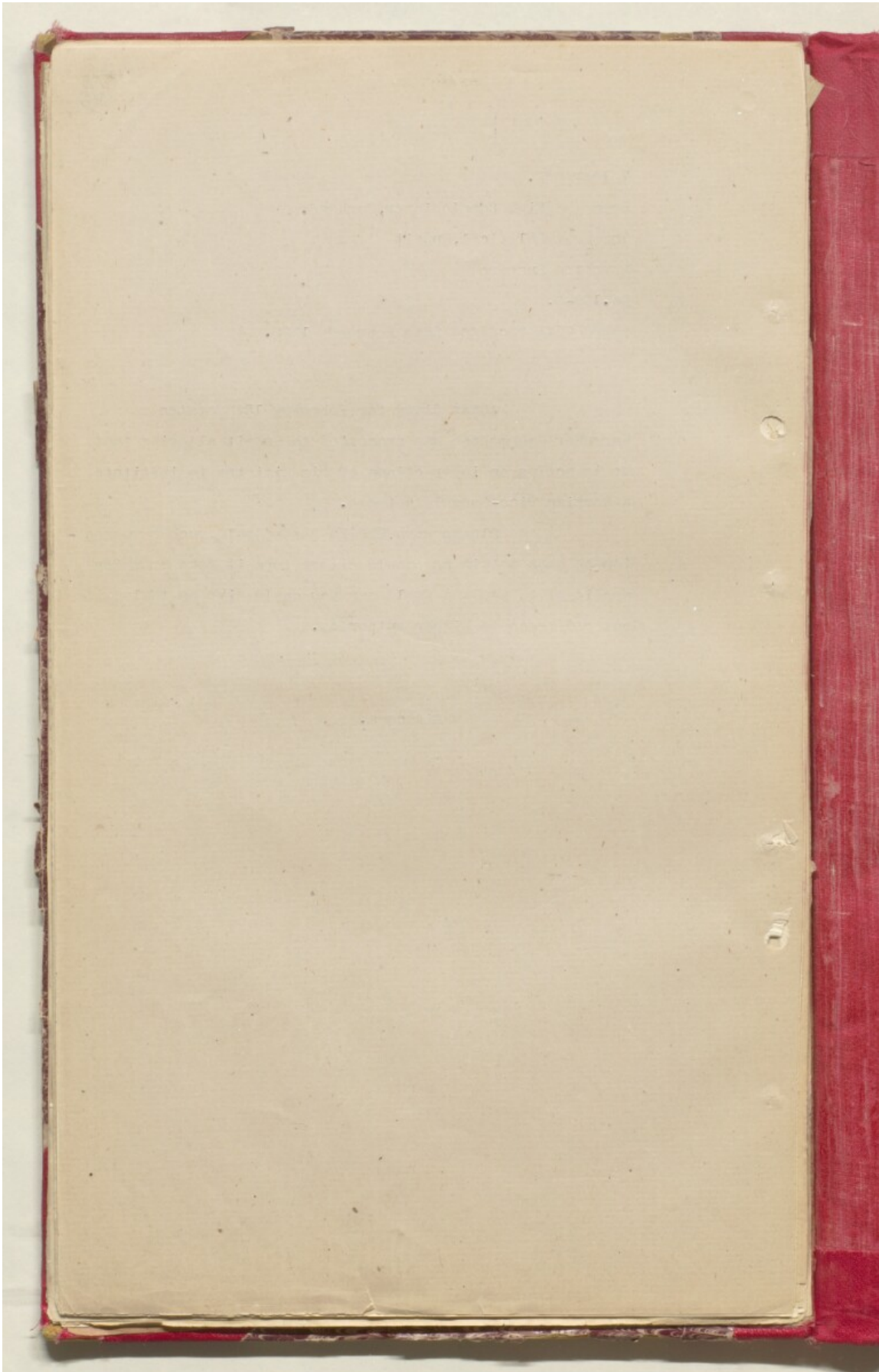
This inscription, which is also in white letters, is at right angles to the word "Kuwait", and parallel to and adjoining the border next to the flag-staff, and reads from the bottom upwards.

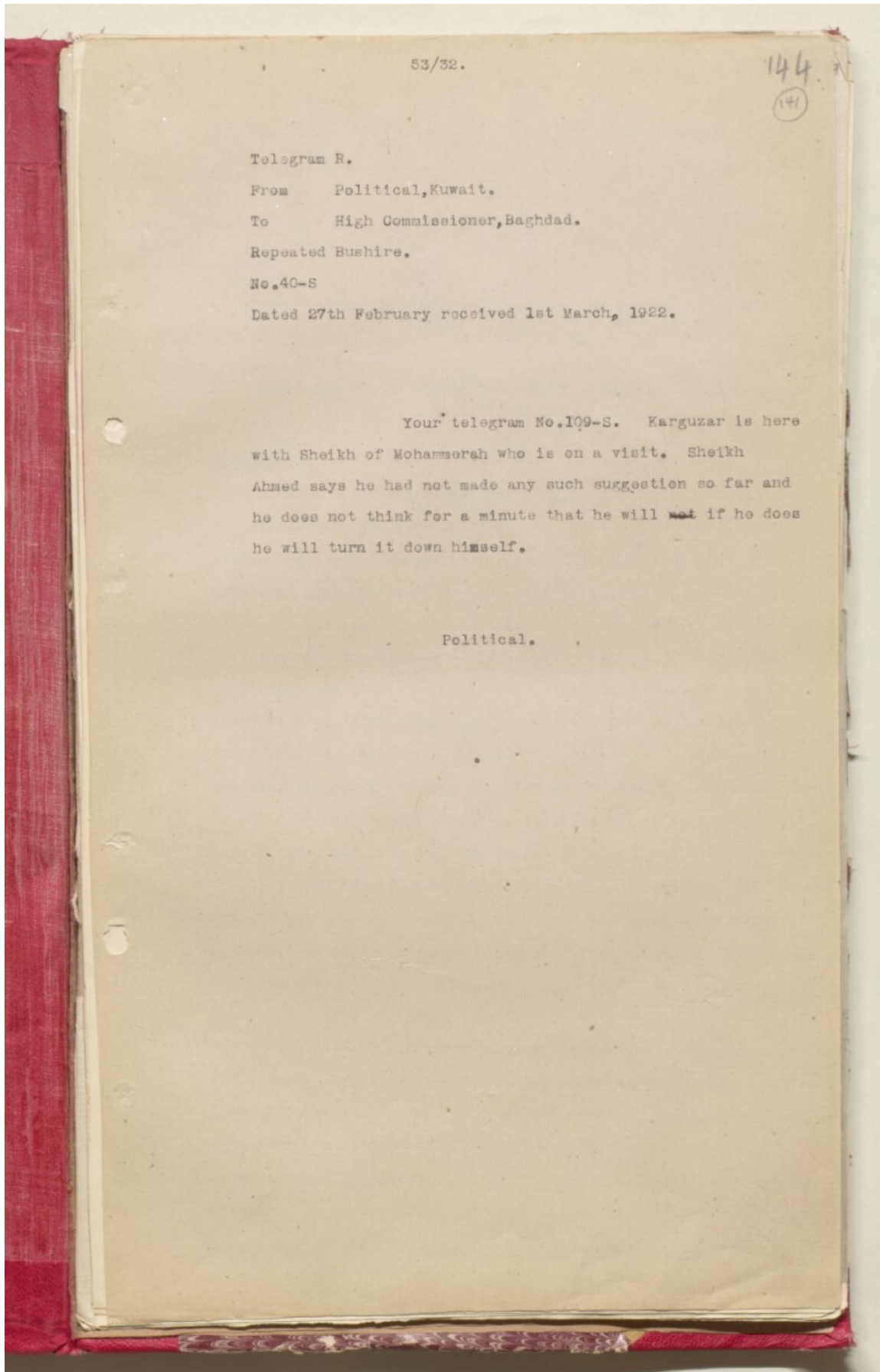
J.C. Mora
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

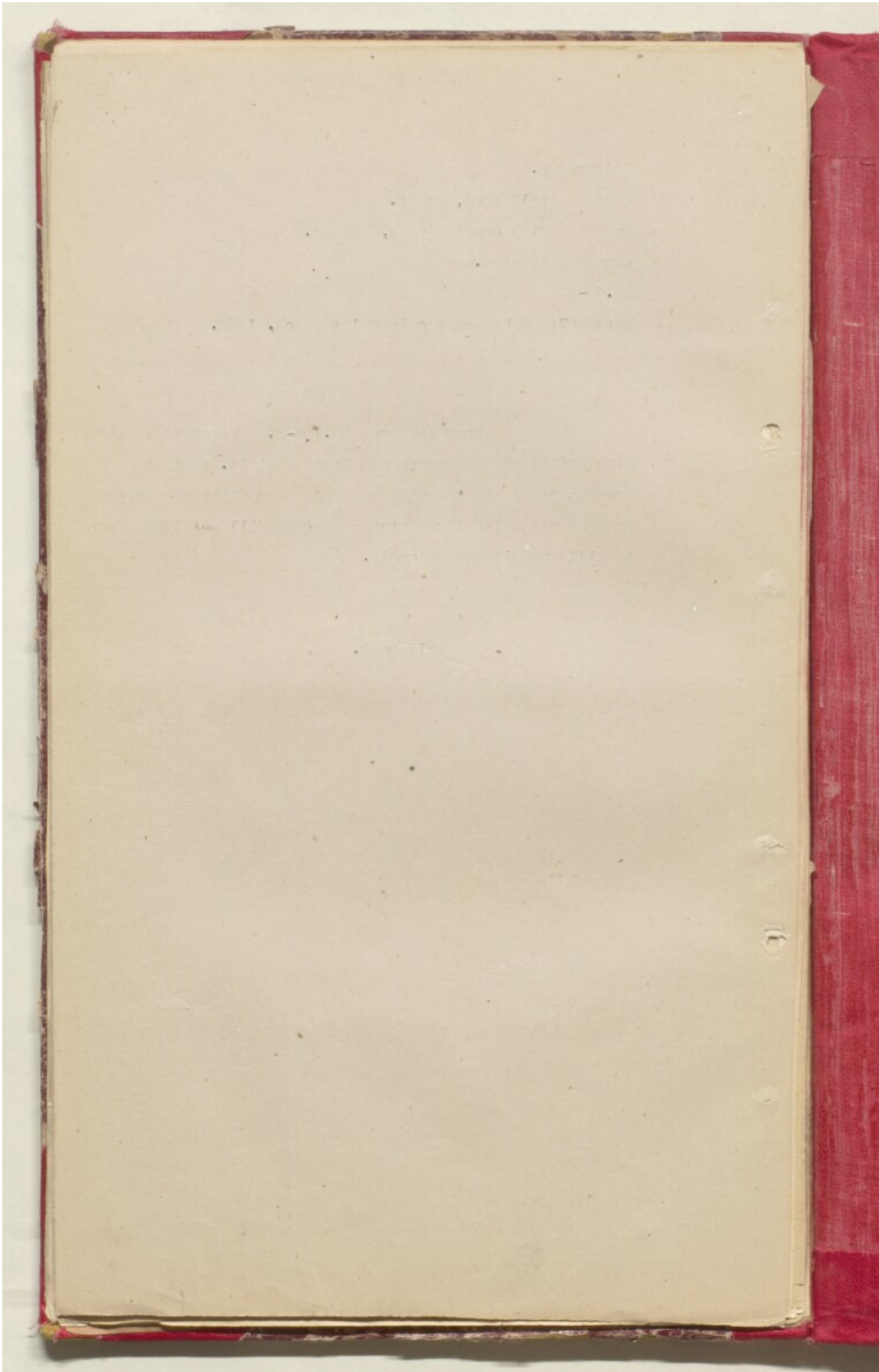
Copy to the Political Resident, Bushire.

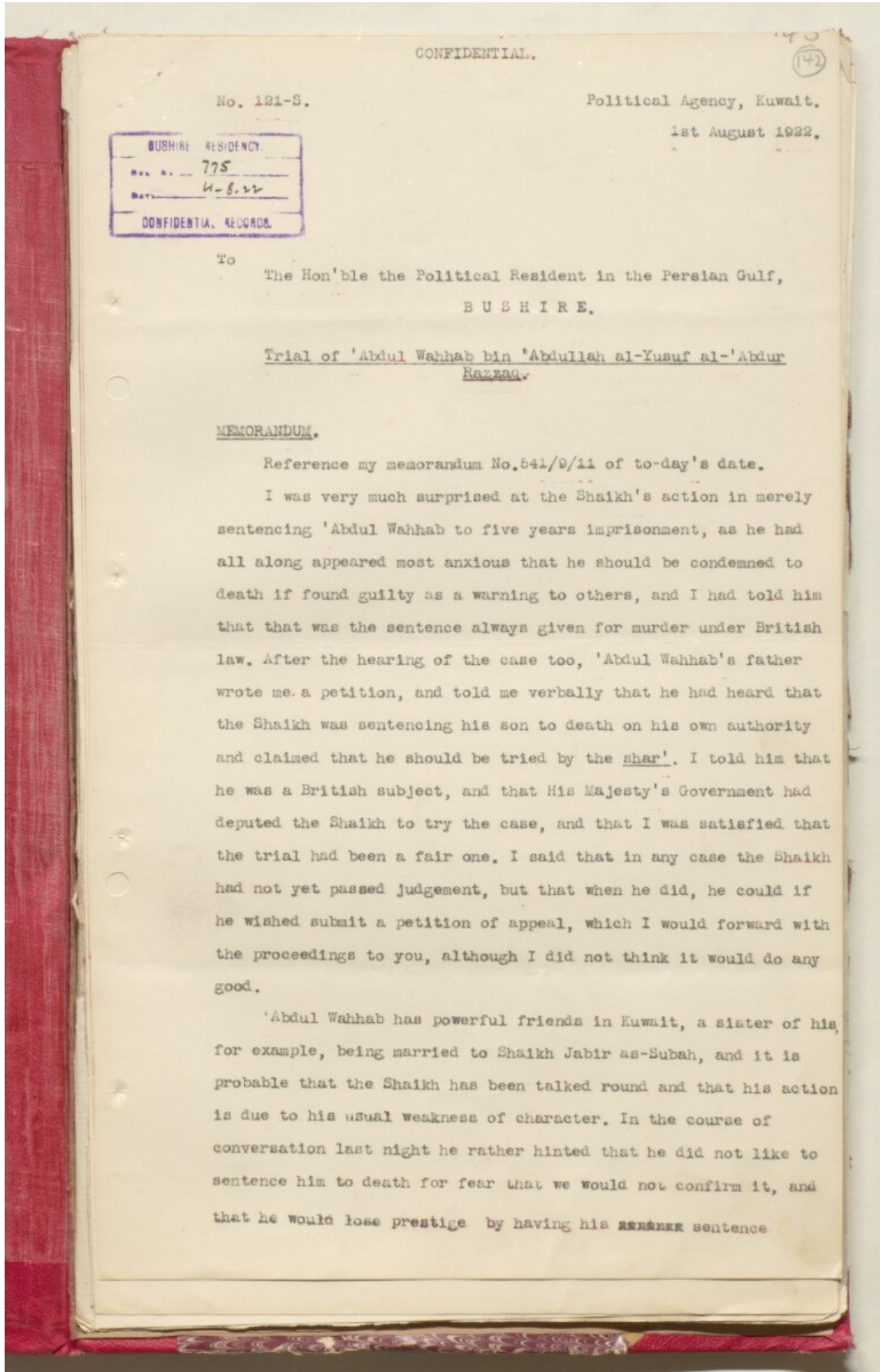


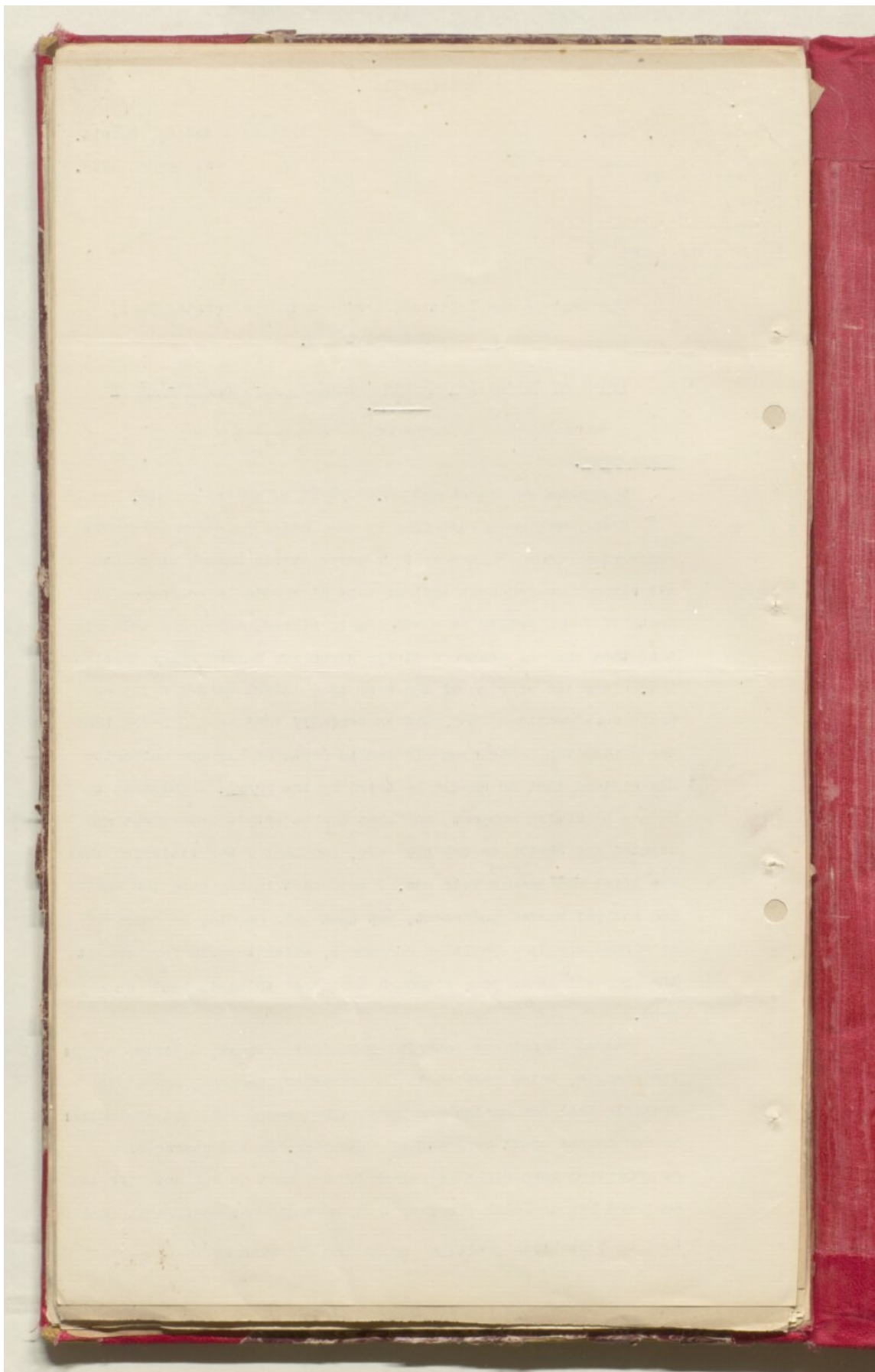


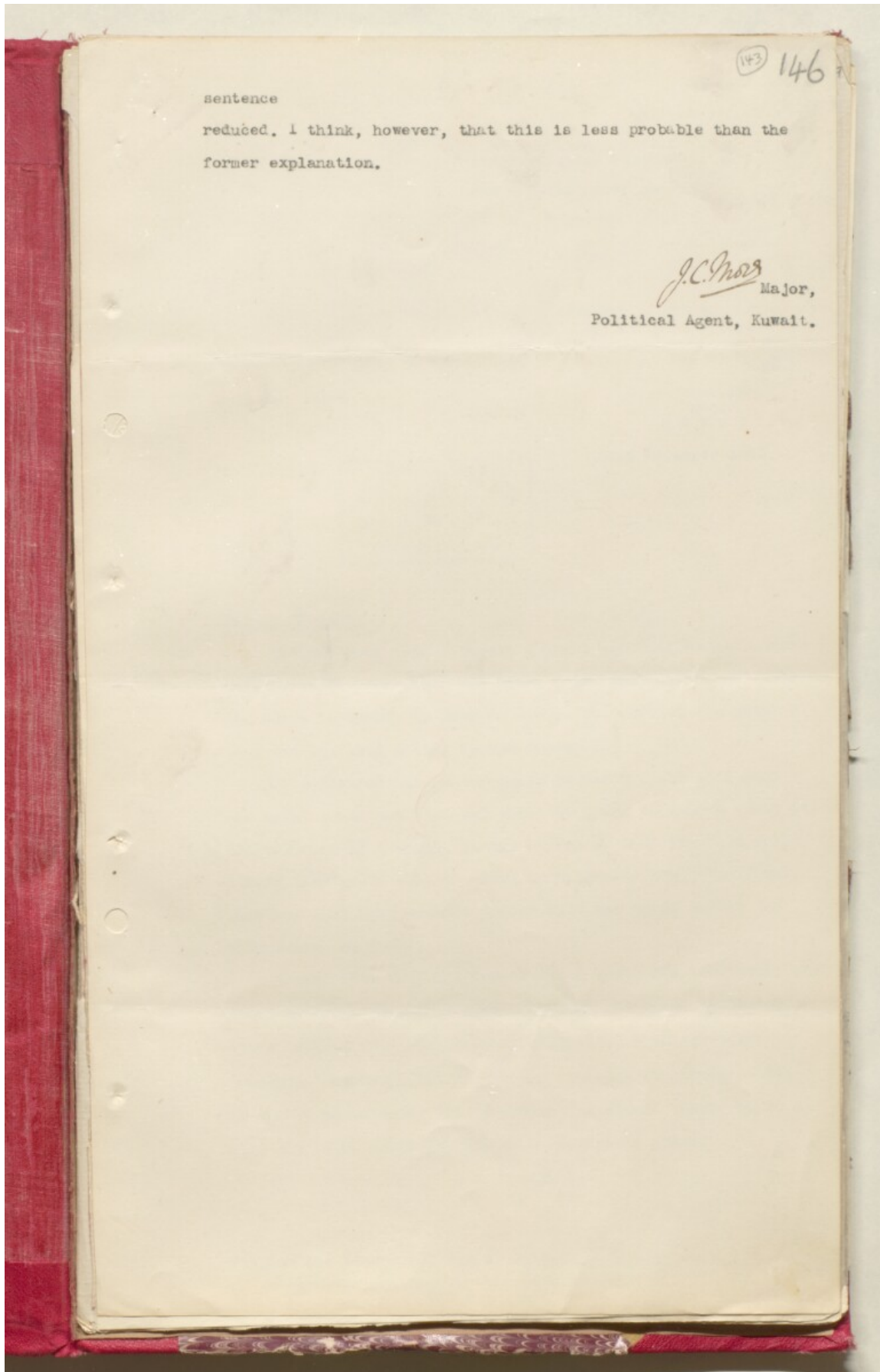


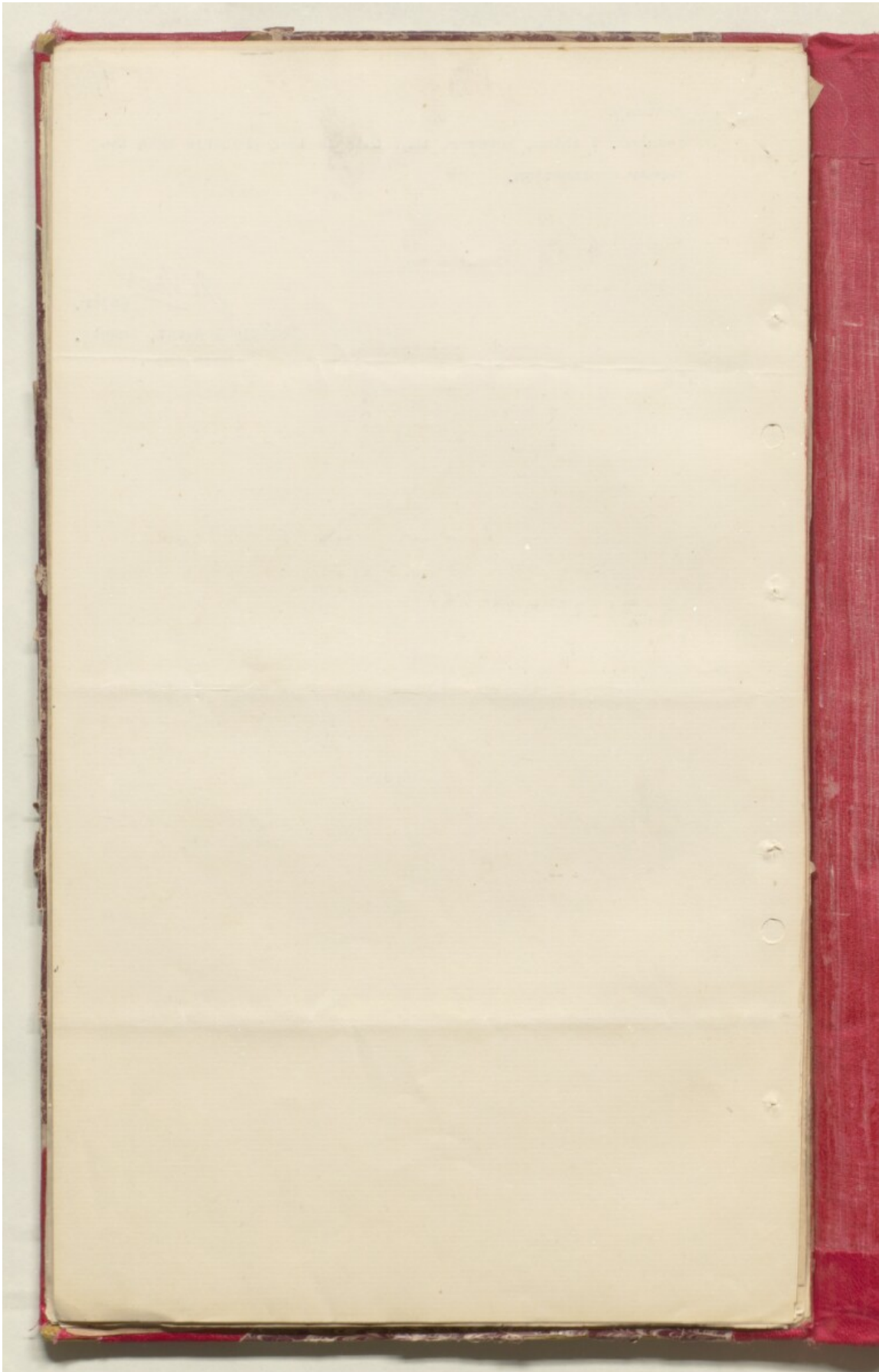
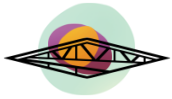


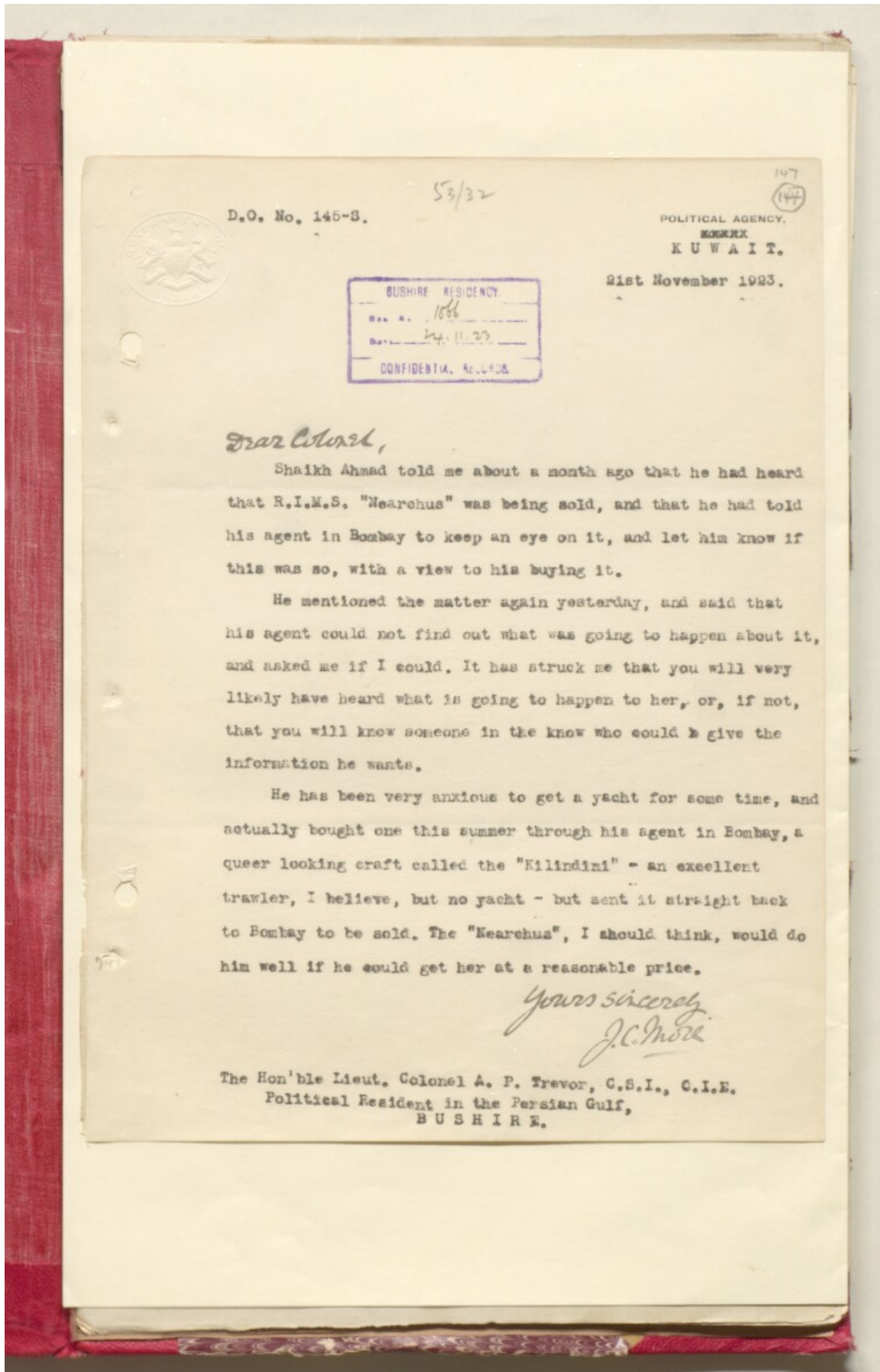


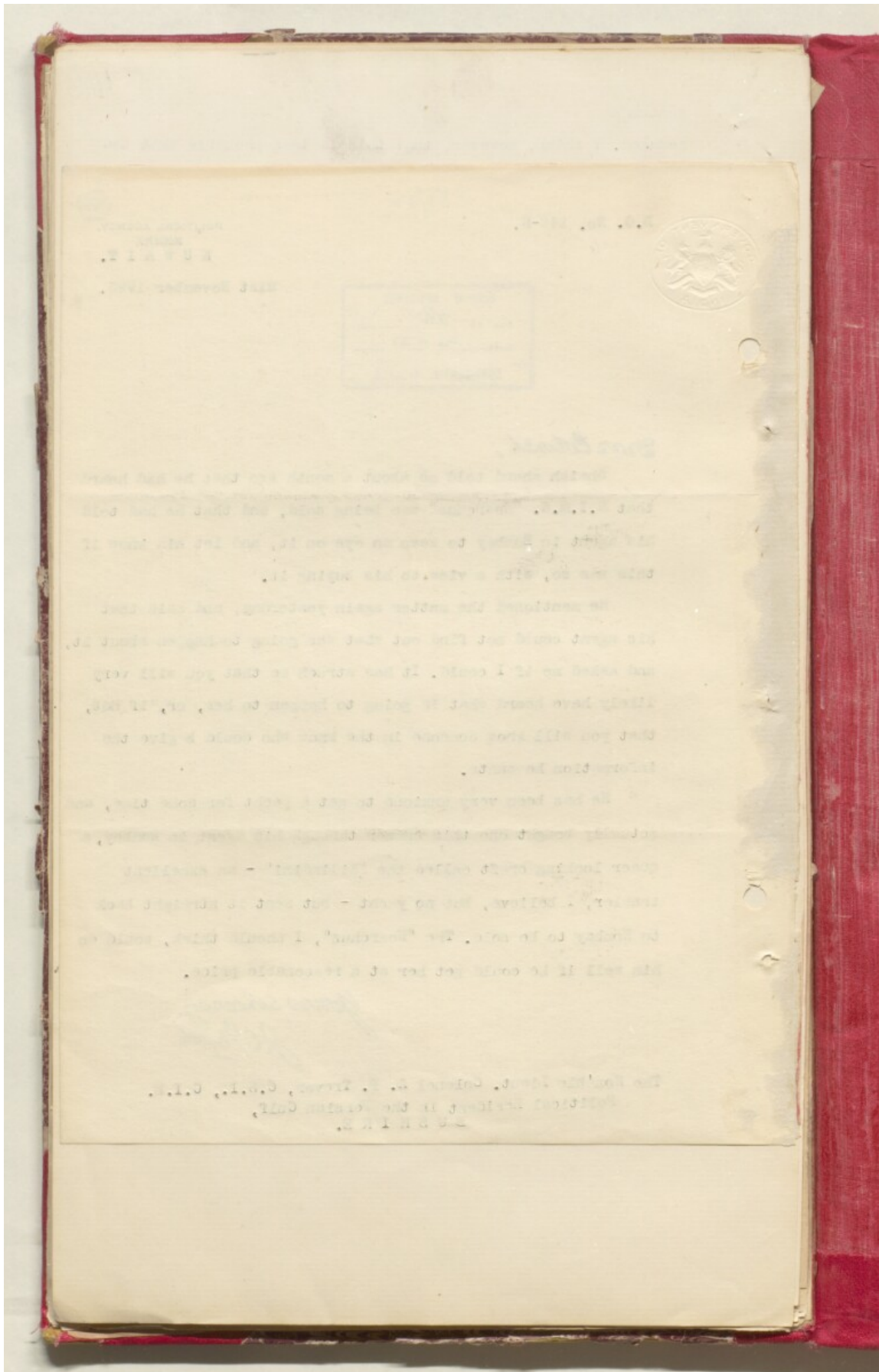
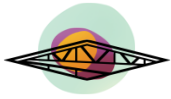


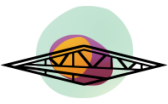












D.O. No. 669 -S.

53/32

148
145

(address) The Residency, Bushire,
o/o The Presidency Postmaster,
Bombay,
FOR SPECIAL CONSULAR BAg.

24th November 1923.

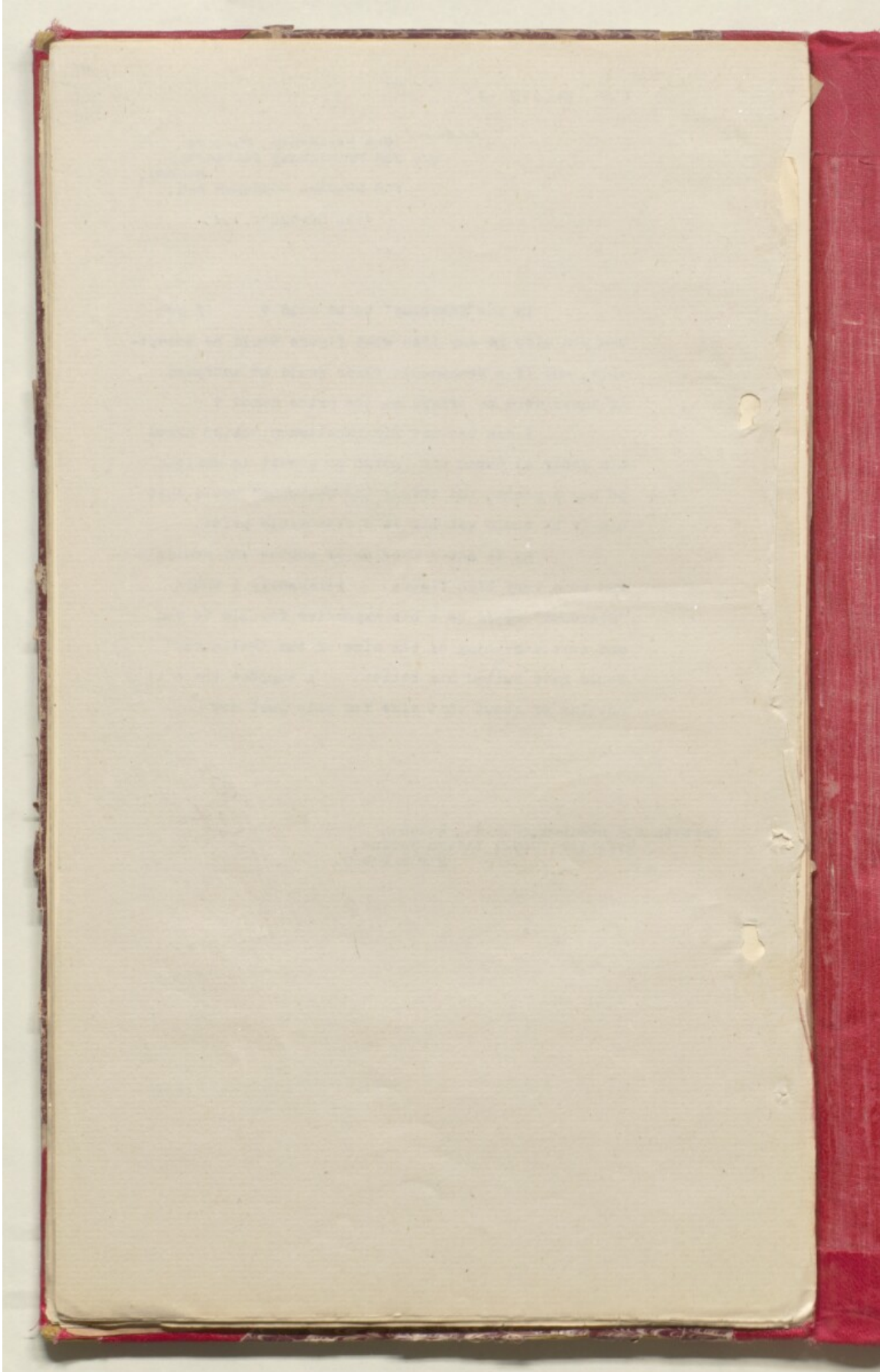
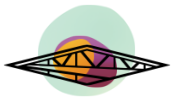
Is the "Nearcho" to be sold? If so
can you give me any idea what figure would be accept-
able, and if a reasonable offer would be accepted
if there were no offers at the price named?

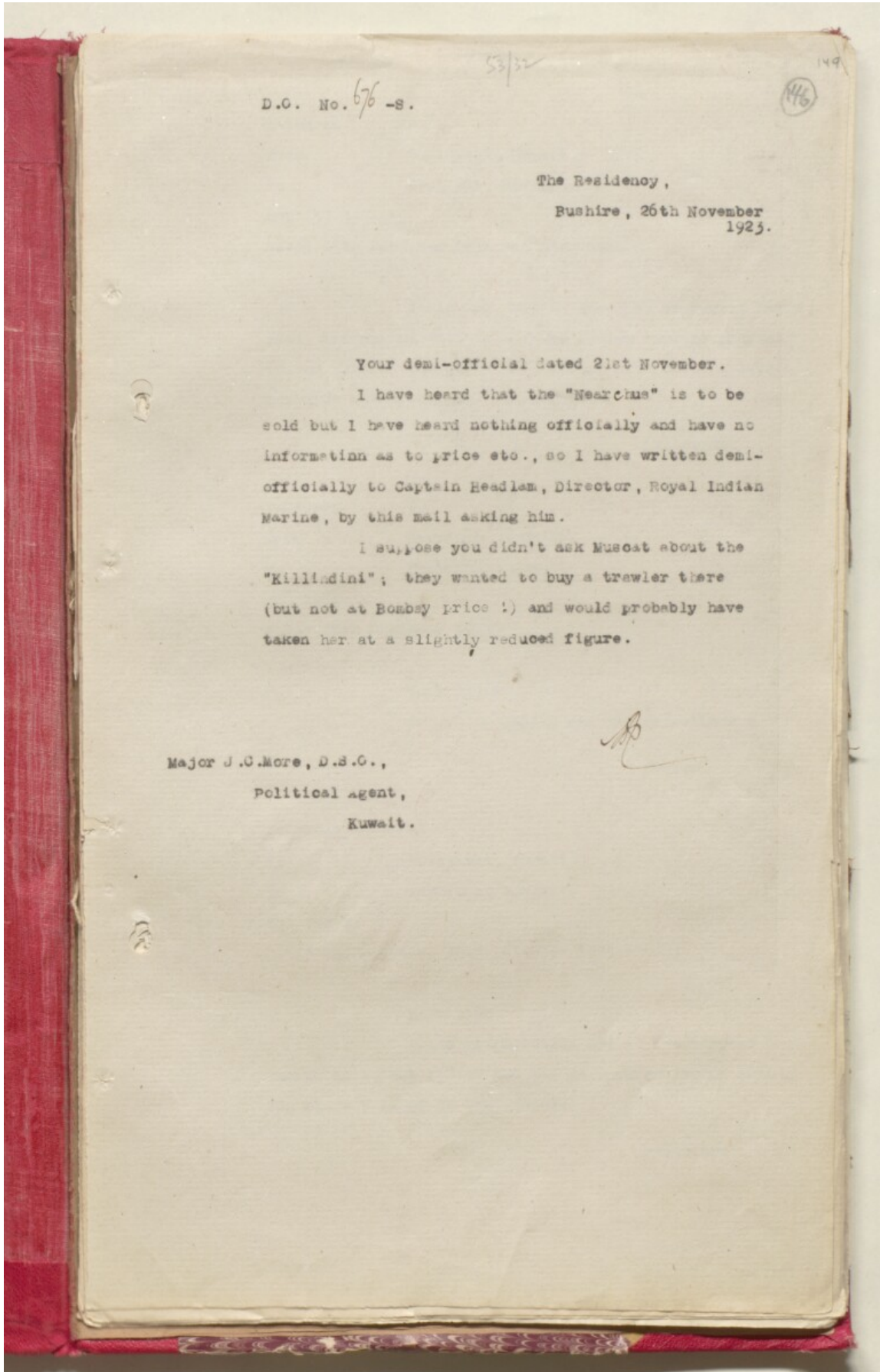
I ask because His Excellency Shaikh Ahmed
bin Jabir al Subah the Shaikh of Kuwait is anxious
to buy a yacht, and thinks the "Nearcho" would suit
him if he could get her at a reasonable price.

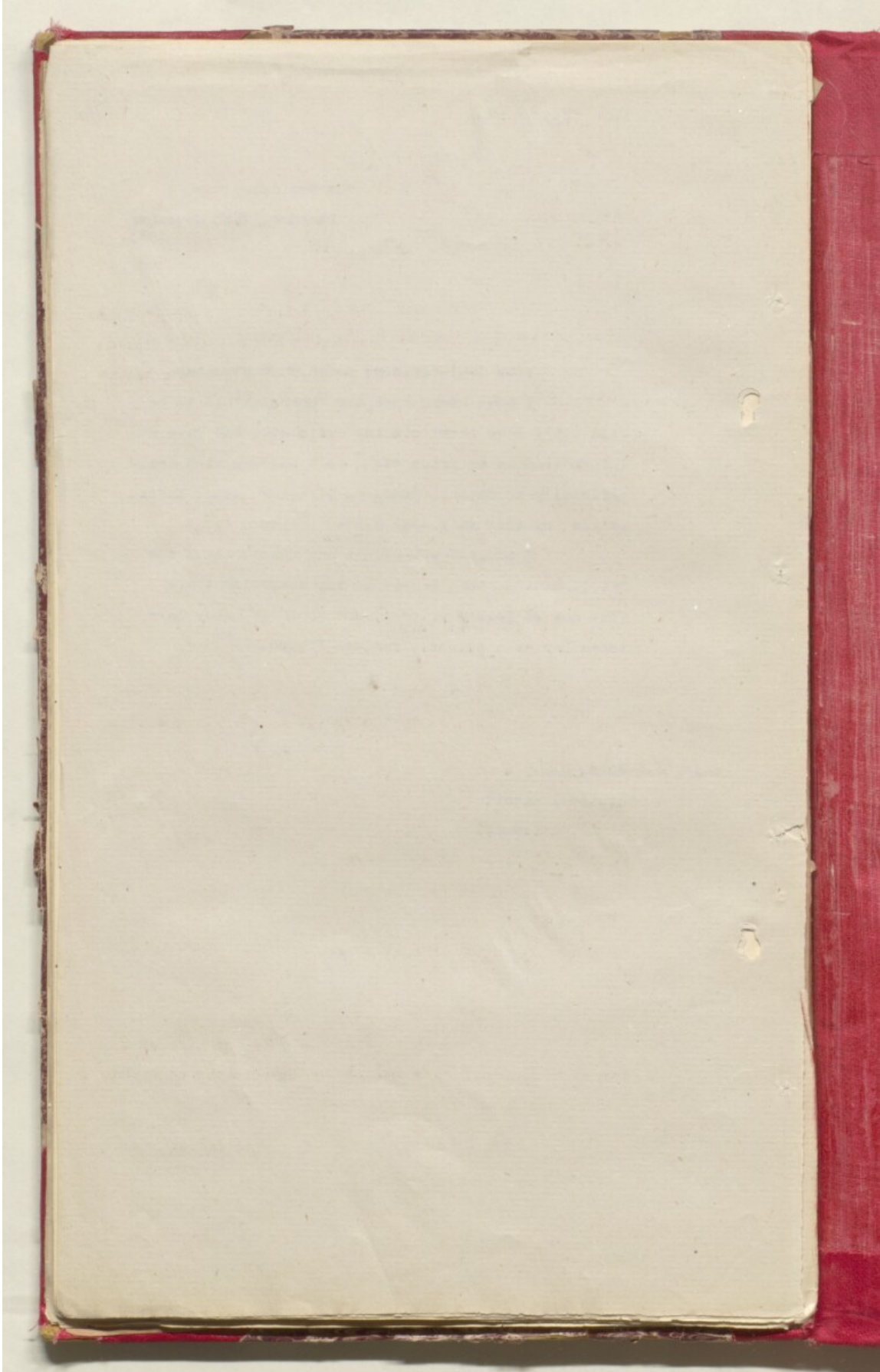
He is not a Croesus of course and wouldn't
run to a very high figure. Personally I think
"Nearcho" would be a bit expensive for him to run
and that something of the size of the "Palinurus"
would have suited him better. I suppose there is
nothing of about that size for sale just now.

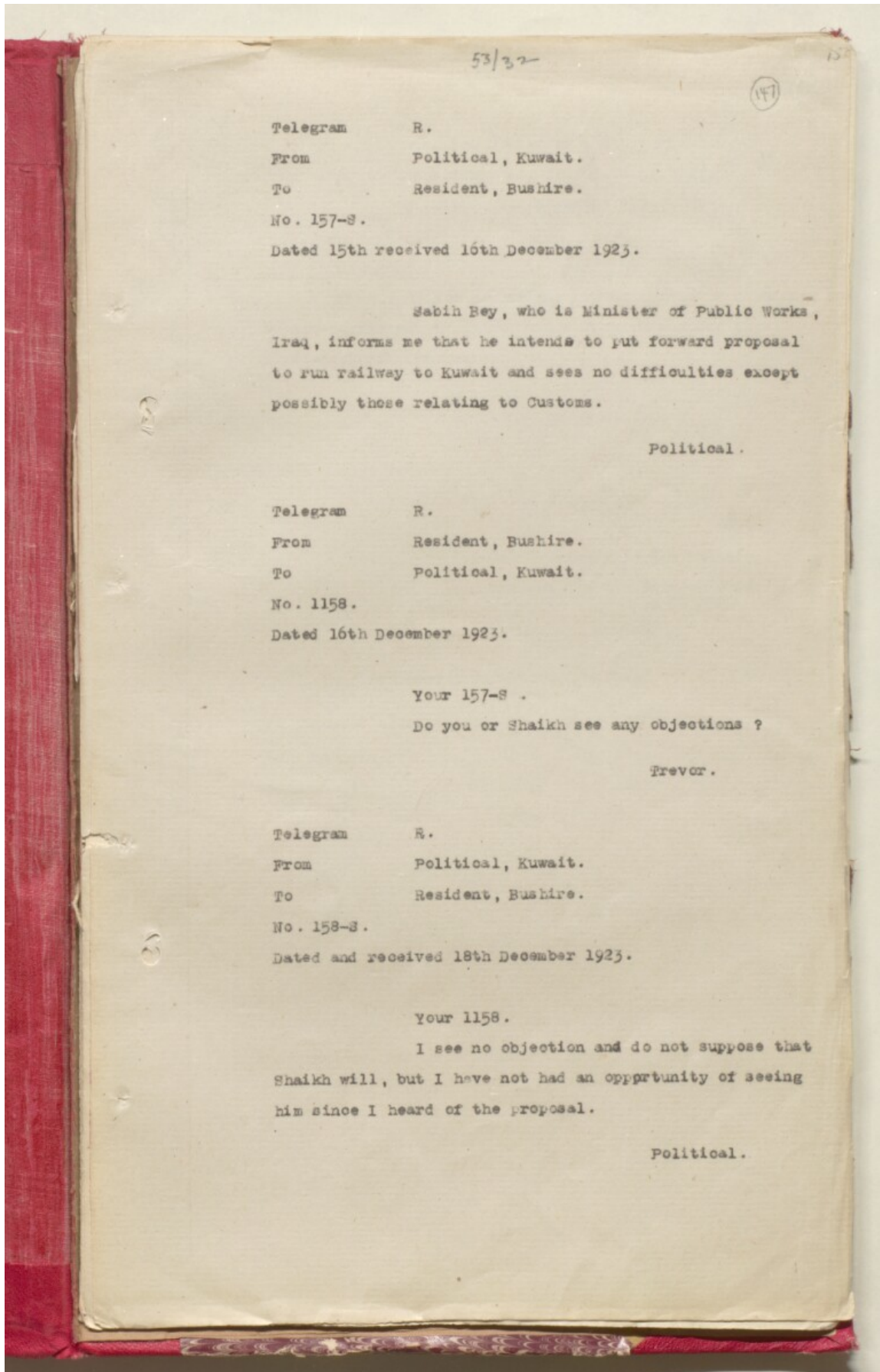
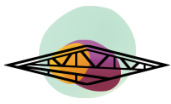
Captain E.J. Headlam, C.M.G., D.S.O.,
Director, Royal Indian Marine,
Bombay.

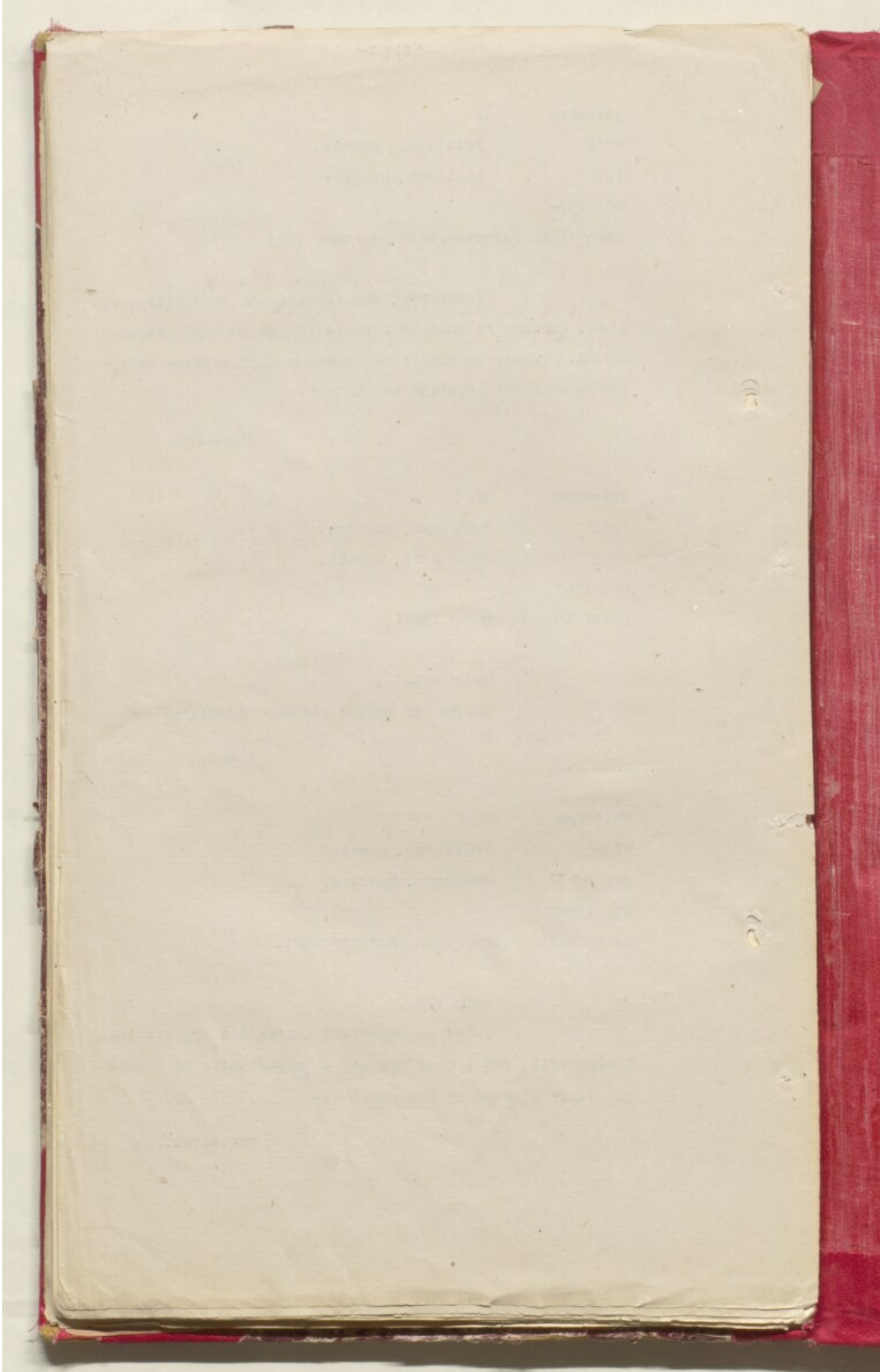
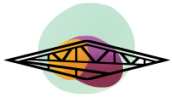
25/4

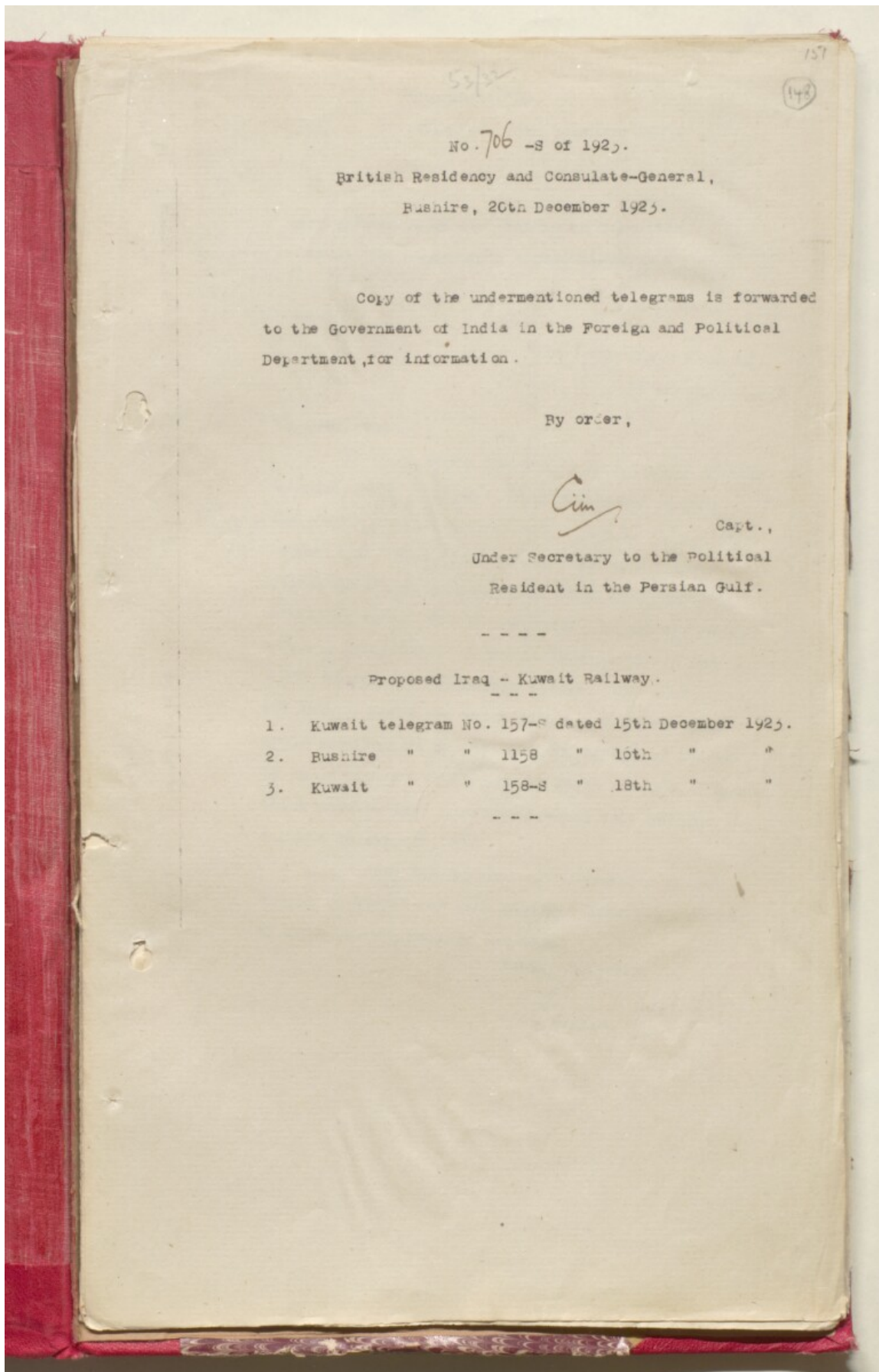
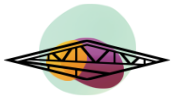


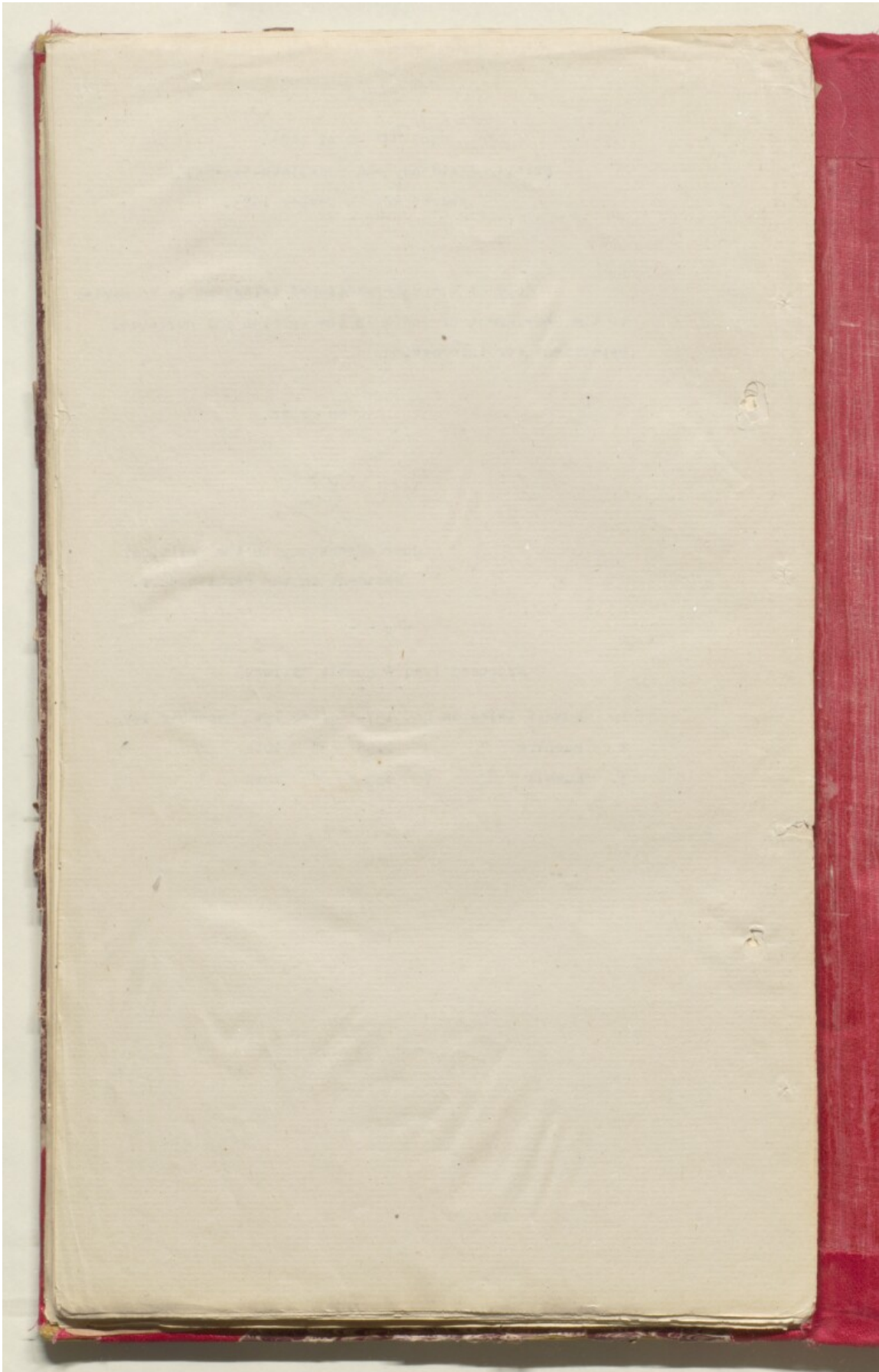


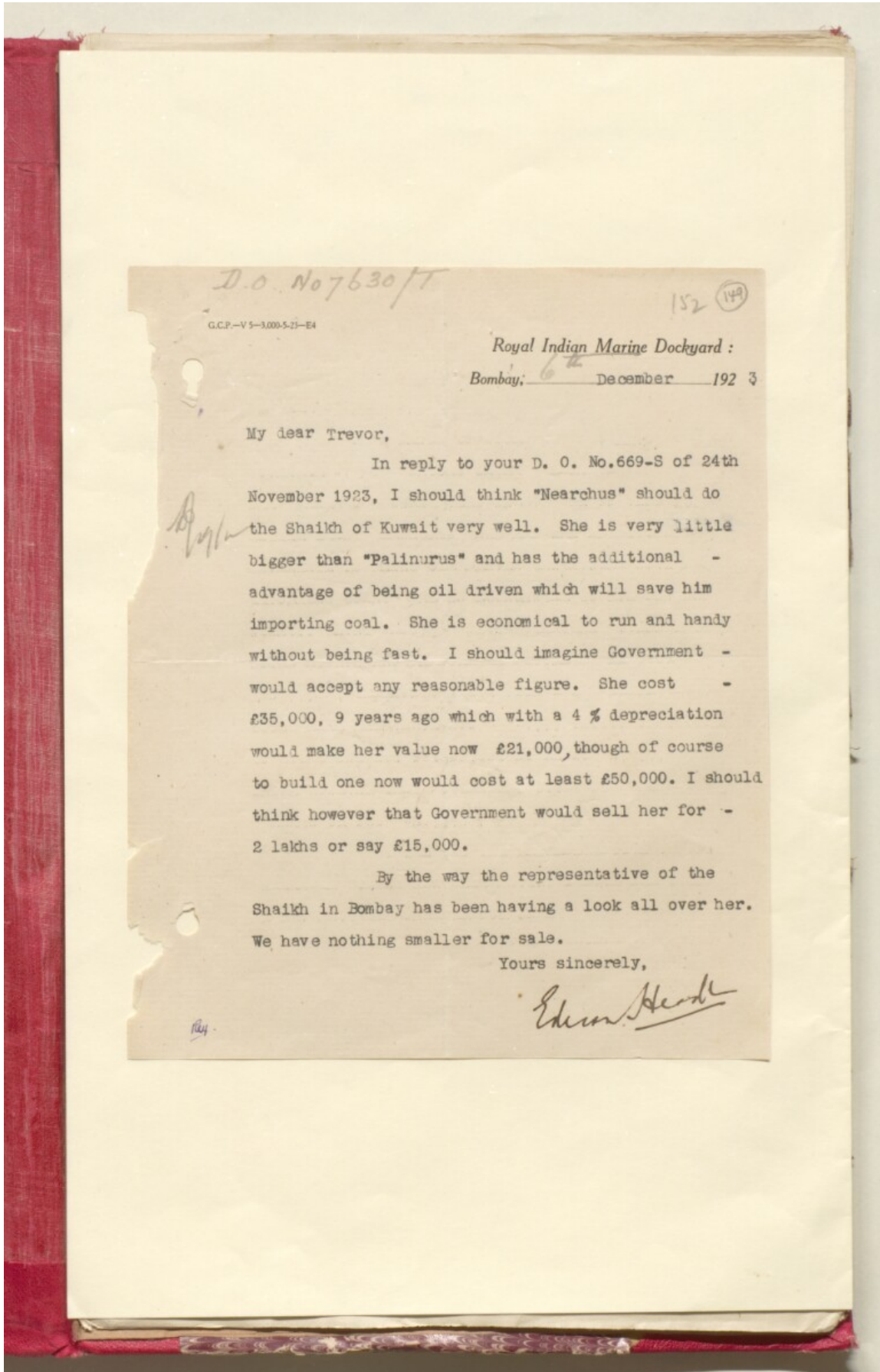












G.C.P.-V 5-3,000-5-23-E4

Royal Indian Marine Dockyard :
Bombay, 6th December 1923

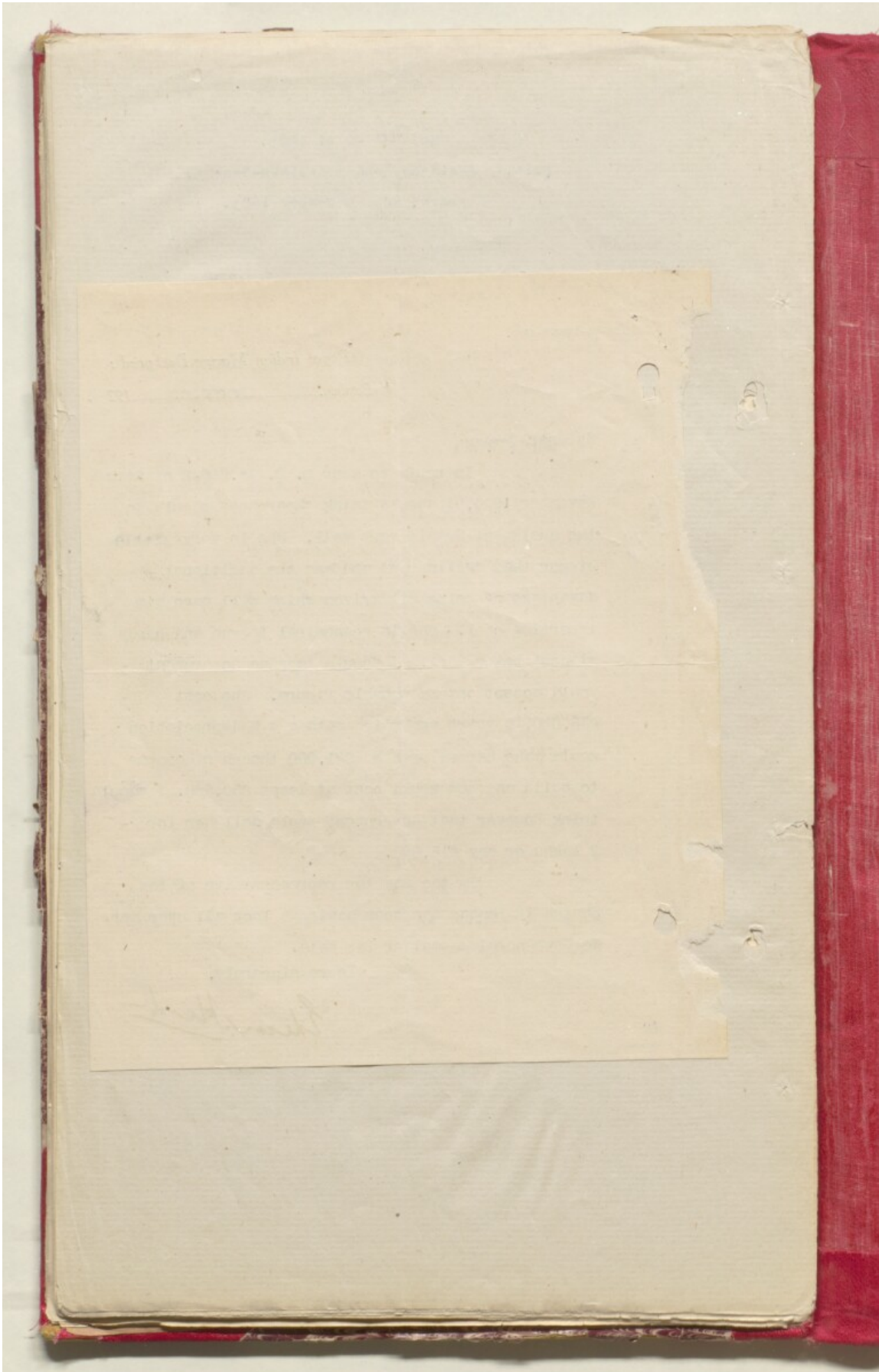
My dear Trevor,

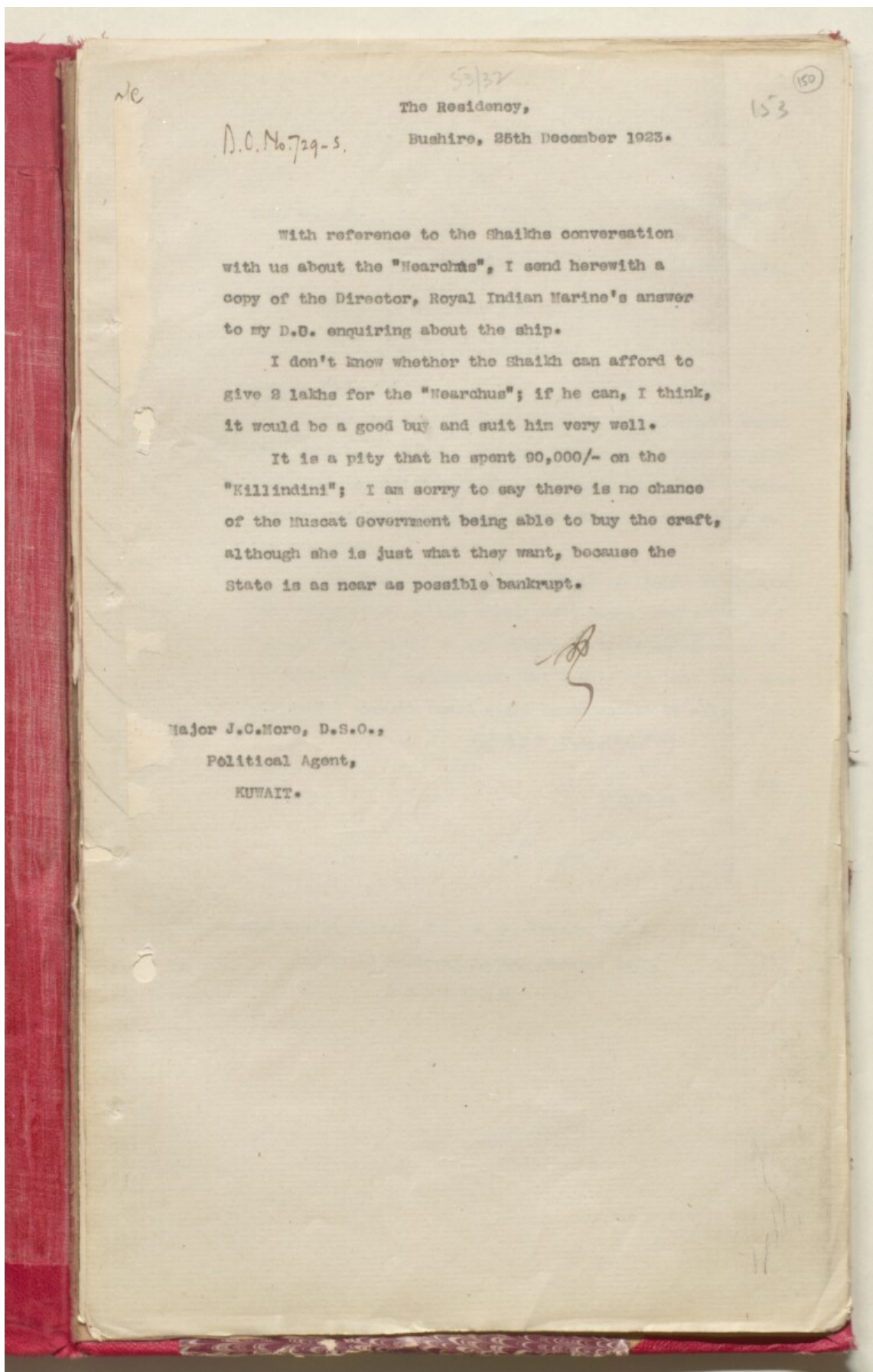
In reply to your D. O. No.669-S of 24th November 1923, I should think "Nearchus" should do the Shaikh of Kuwait very well. She is very little bigger than "Palinurus" and has the additional advantage of being oil driven which will save him importing coal. She is economical to run and handy without being fast. I should imagine Government would accept any reasonable figure. She cost £35,000, 9 years ago which with a 4 % depreciation would make her value now £21,000, though of course to build one now would cost at least £50,000. I should think however that Government would sell her for 2 lakhs or say £15,000.

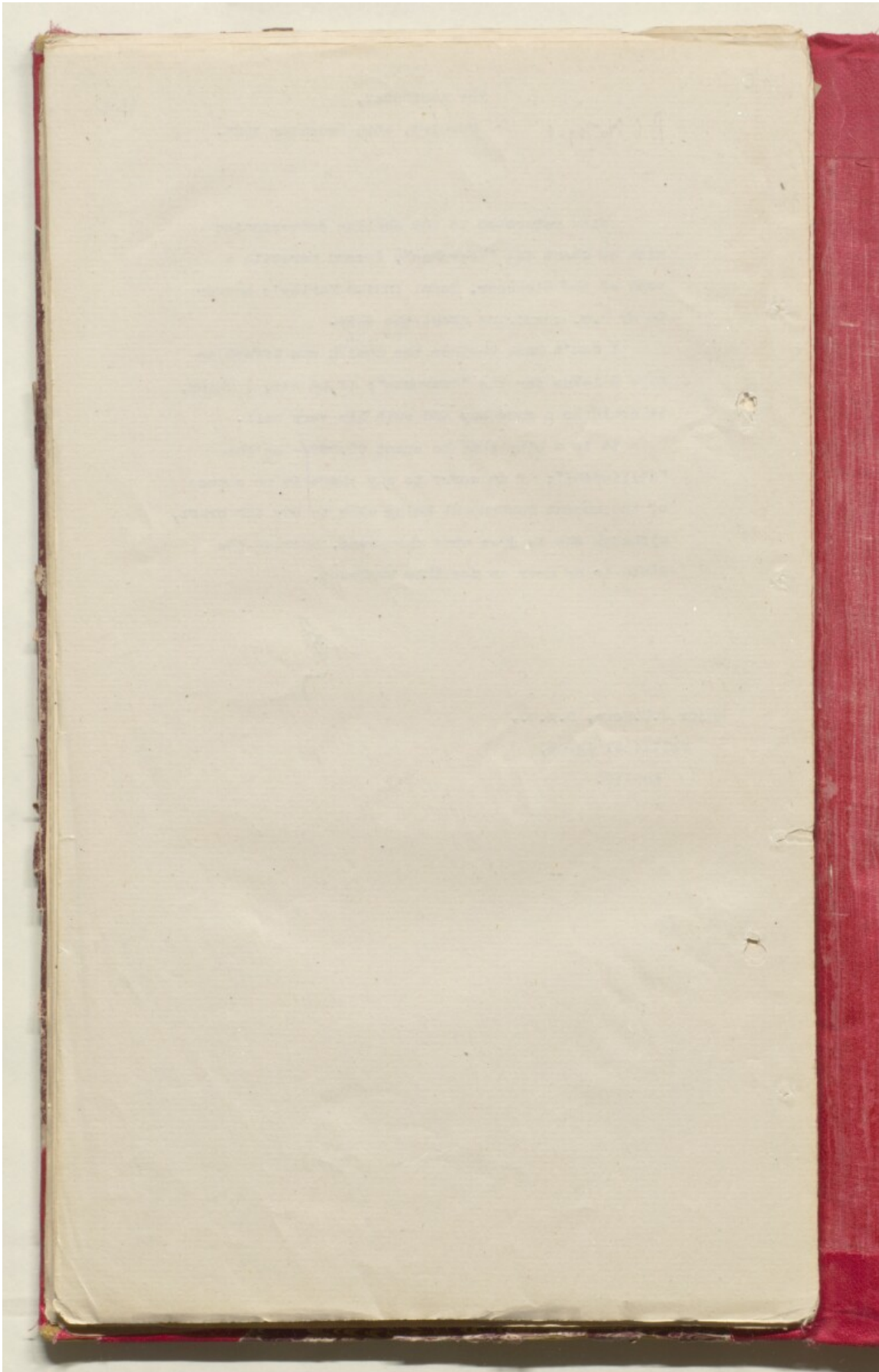
By the way the representative of the Shaikh in Bombay has been having a look all over her. We have nothing smaller for sale.

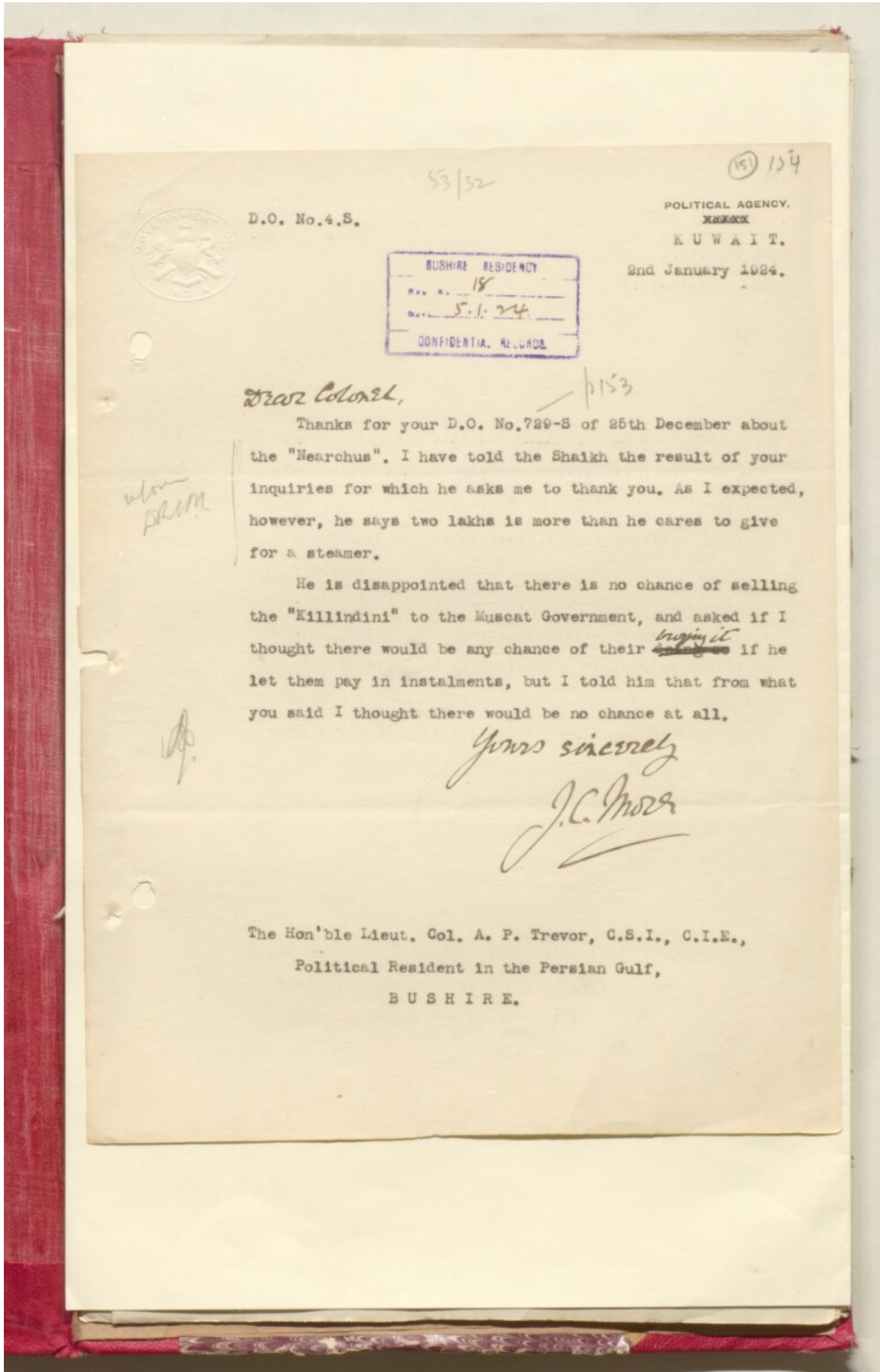
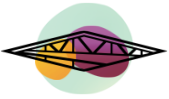
Yours sincerely,

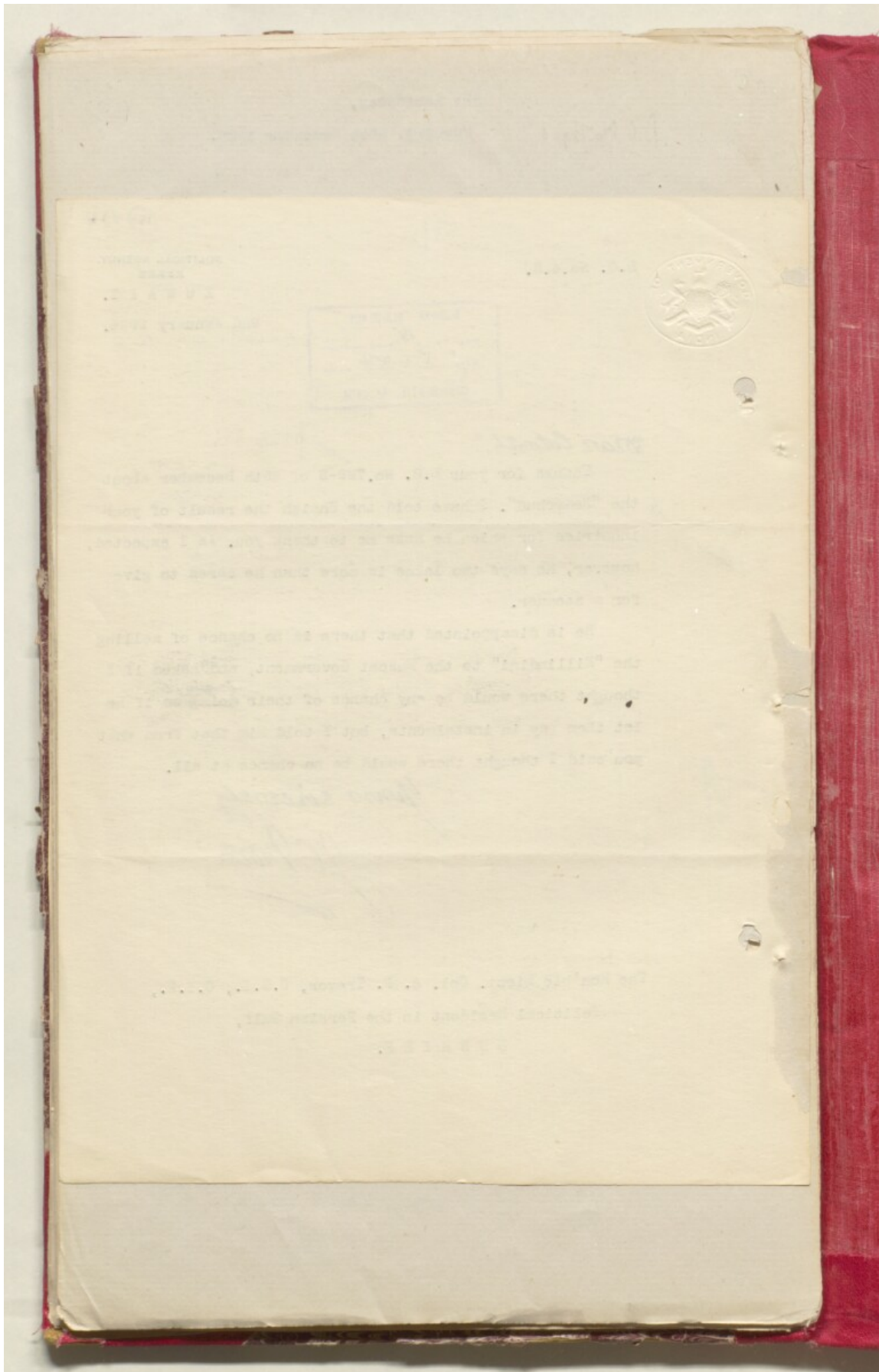
Edmund Head

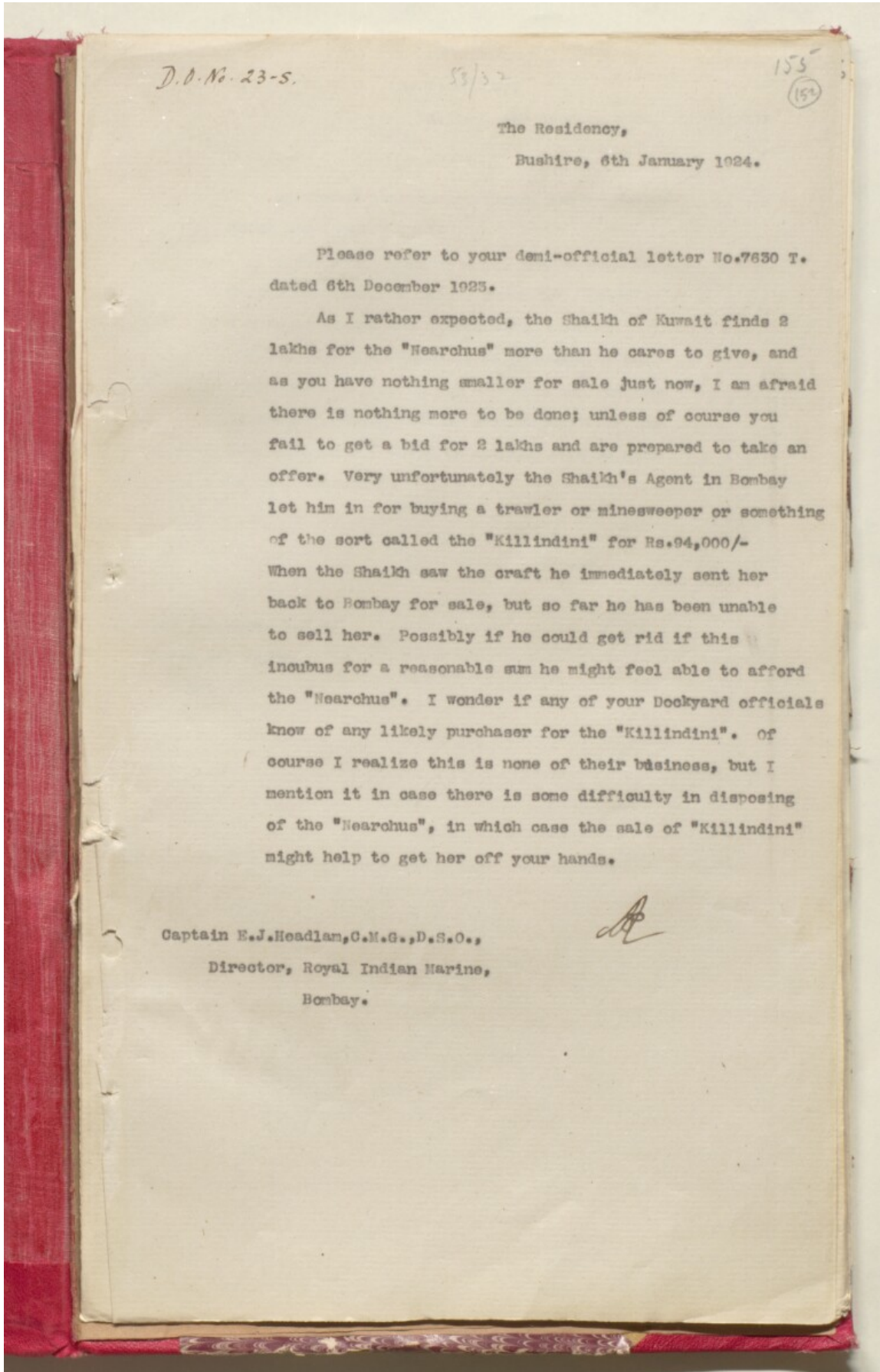


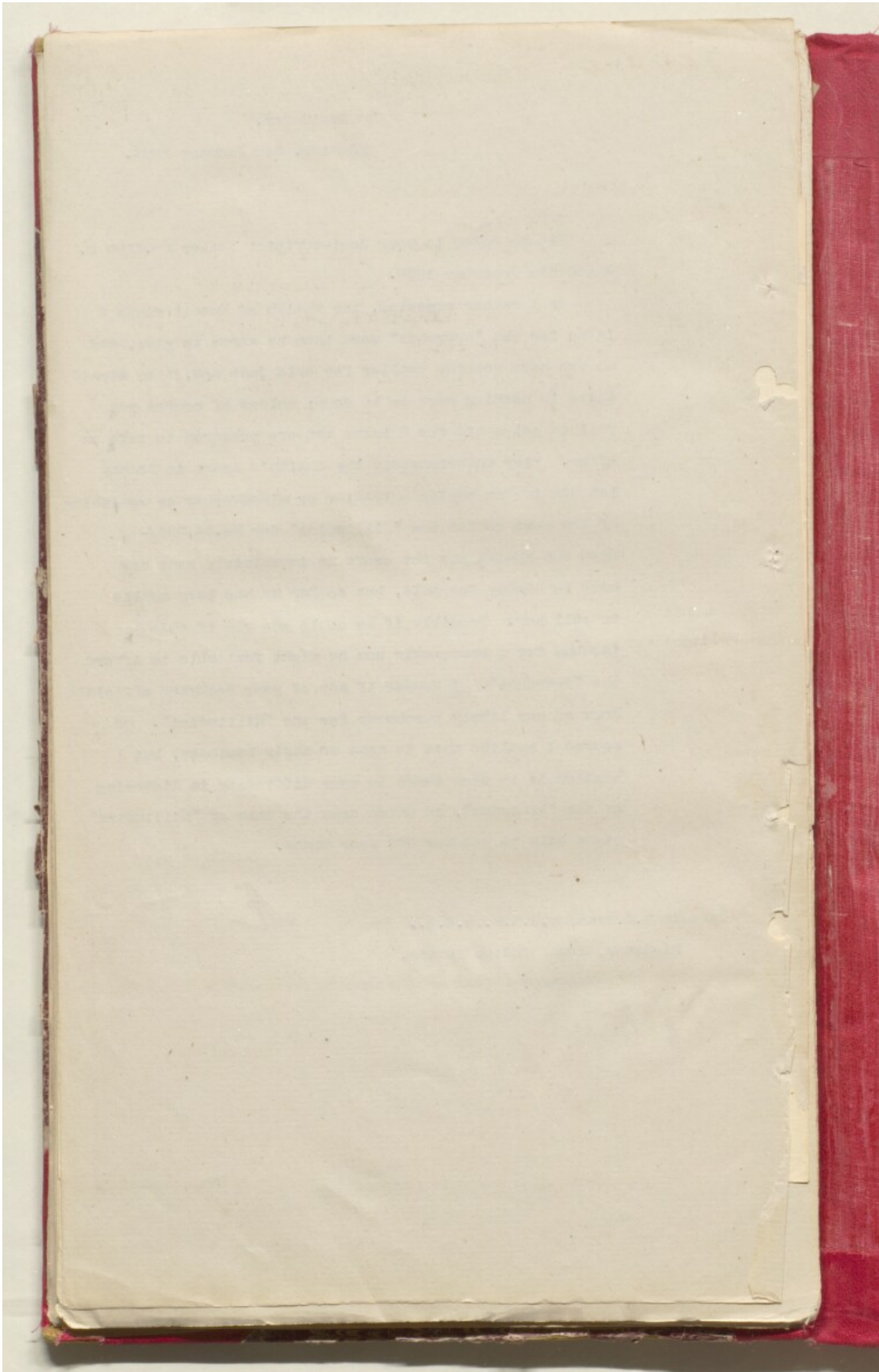


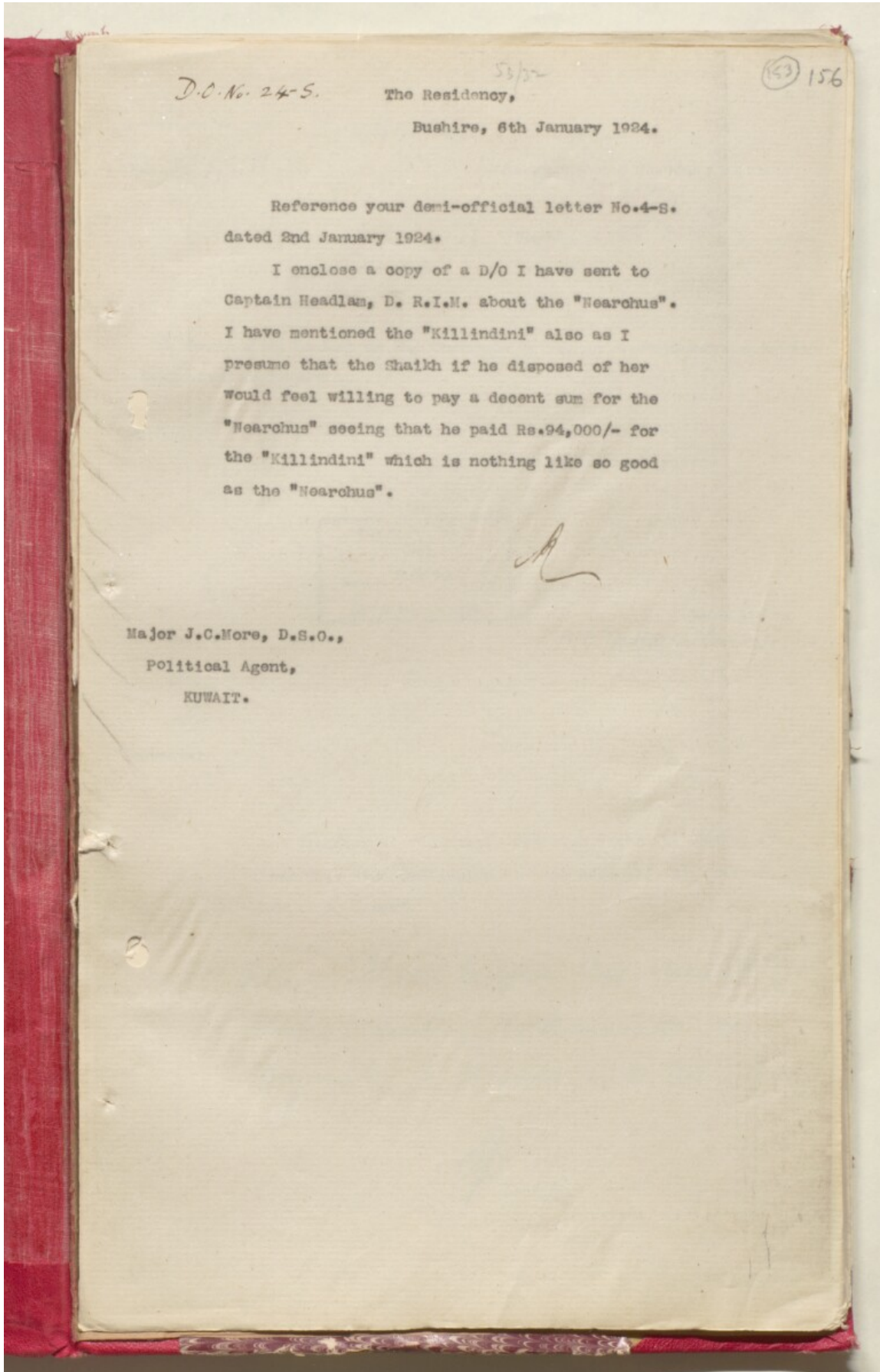


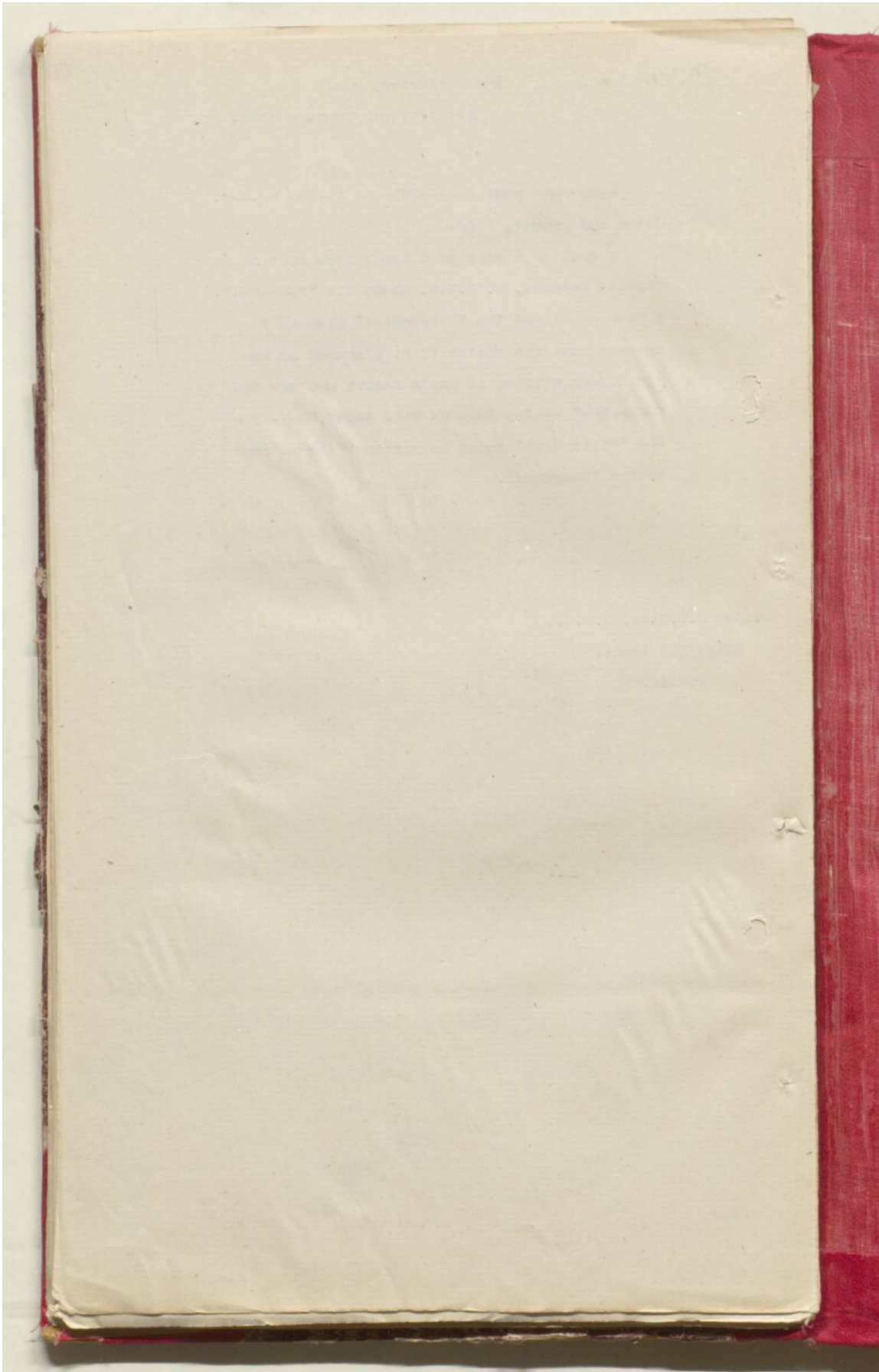


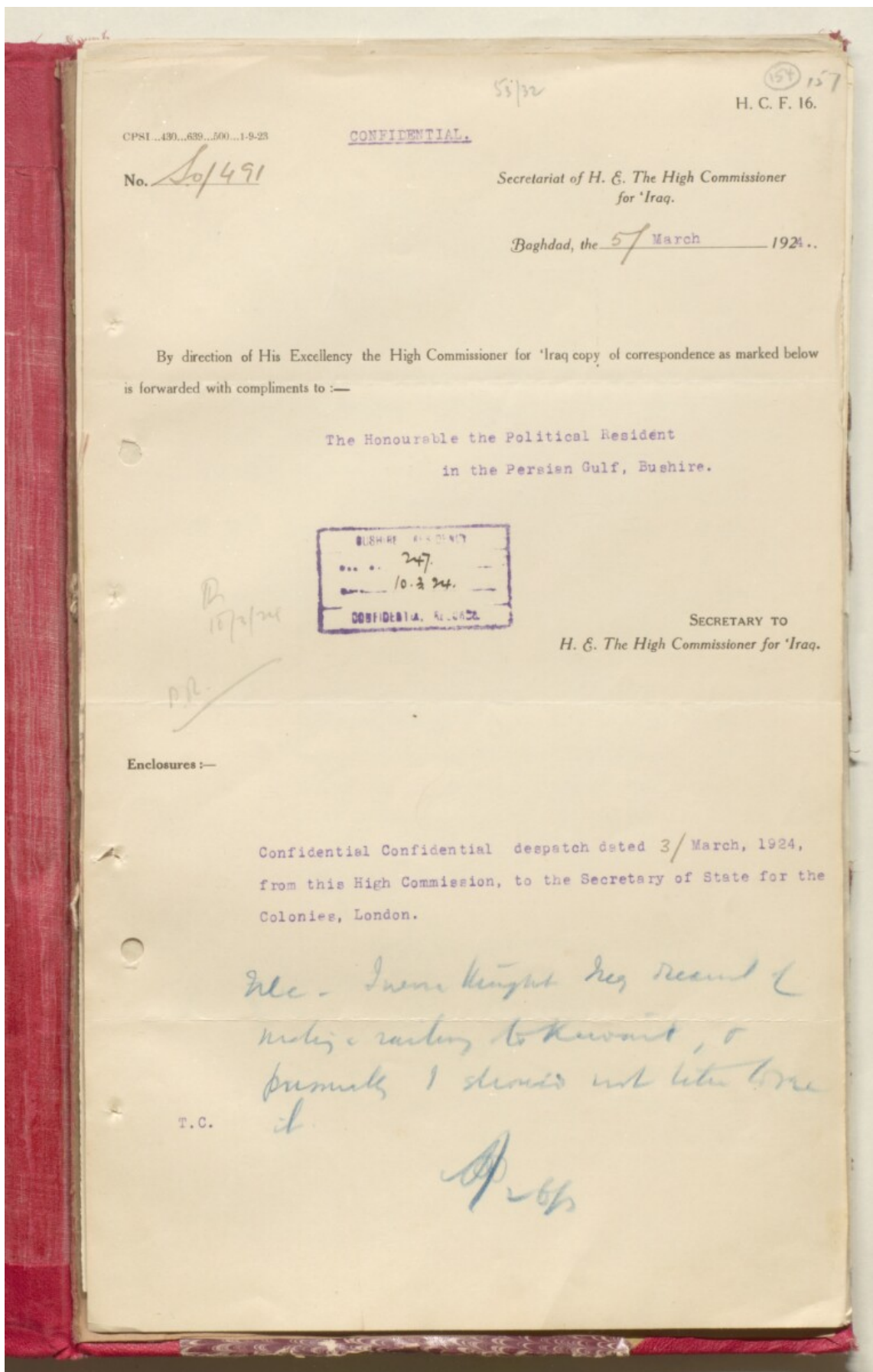


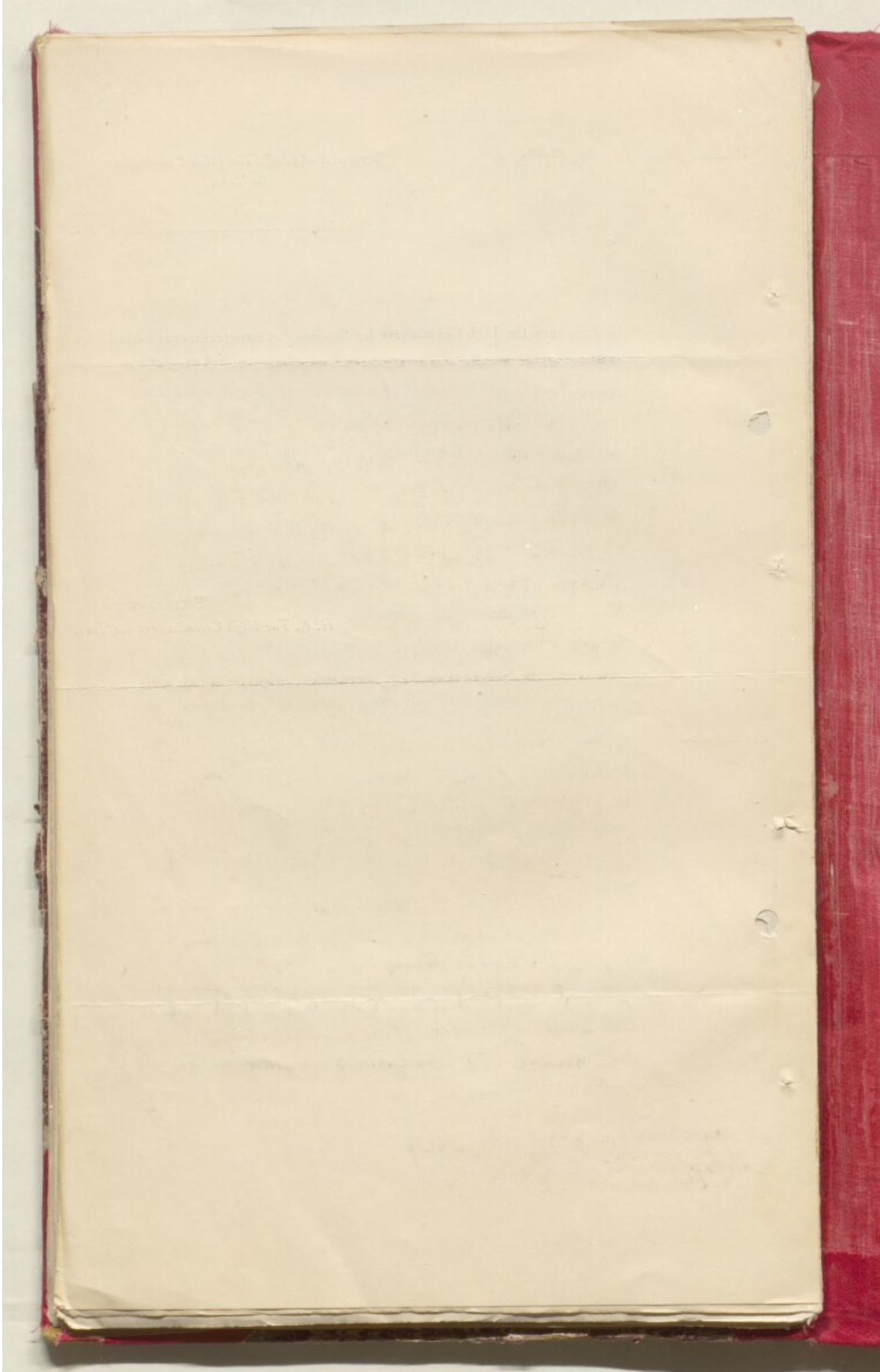


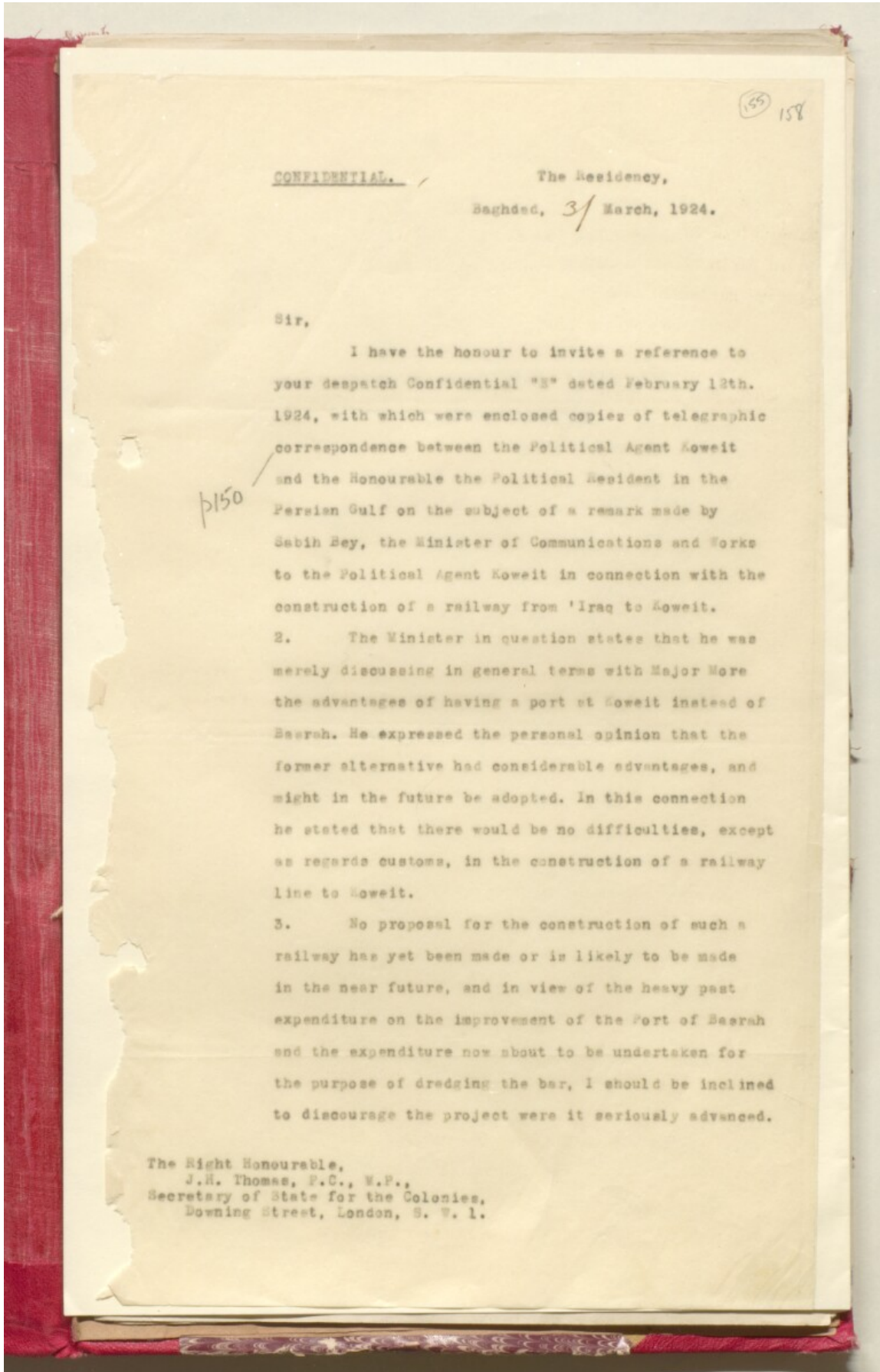


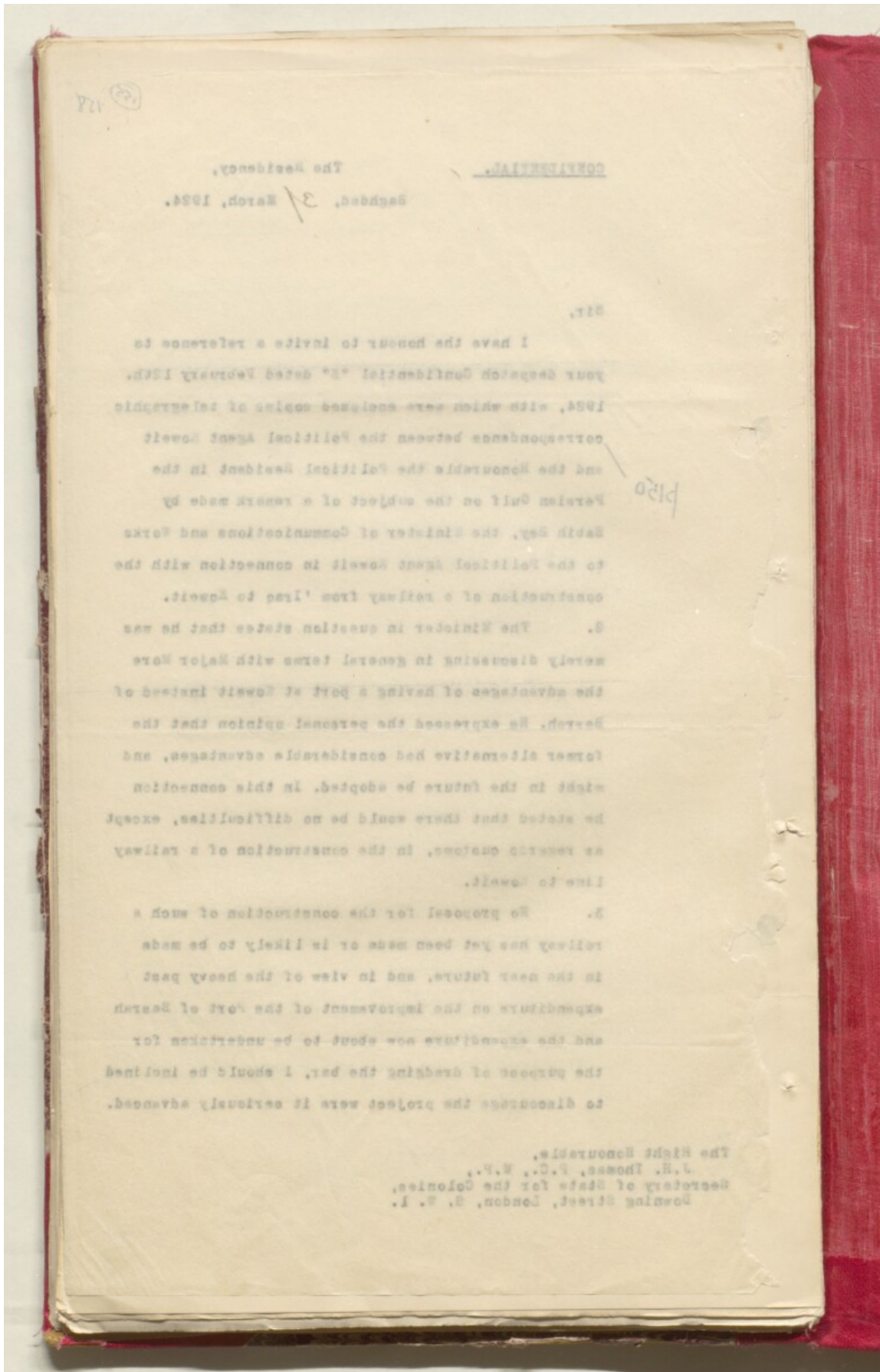


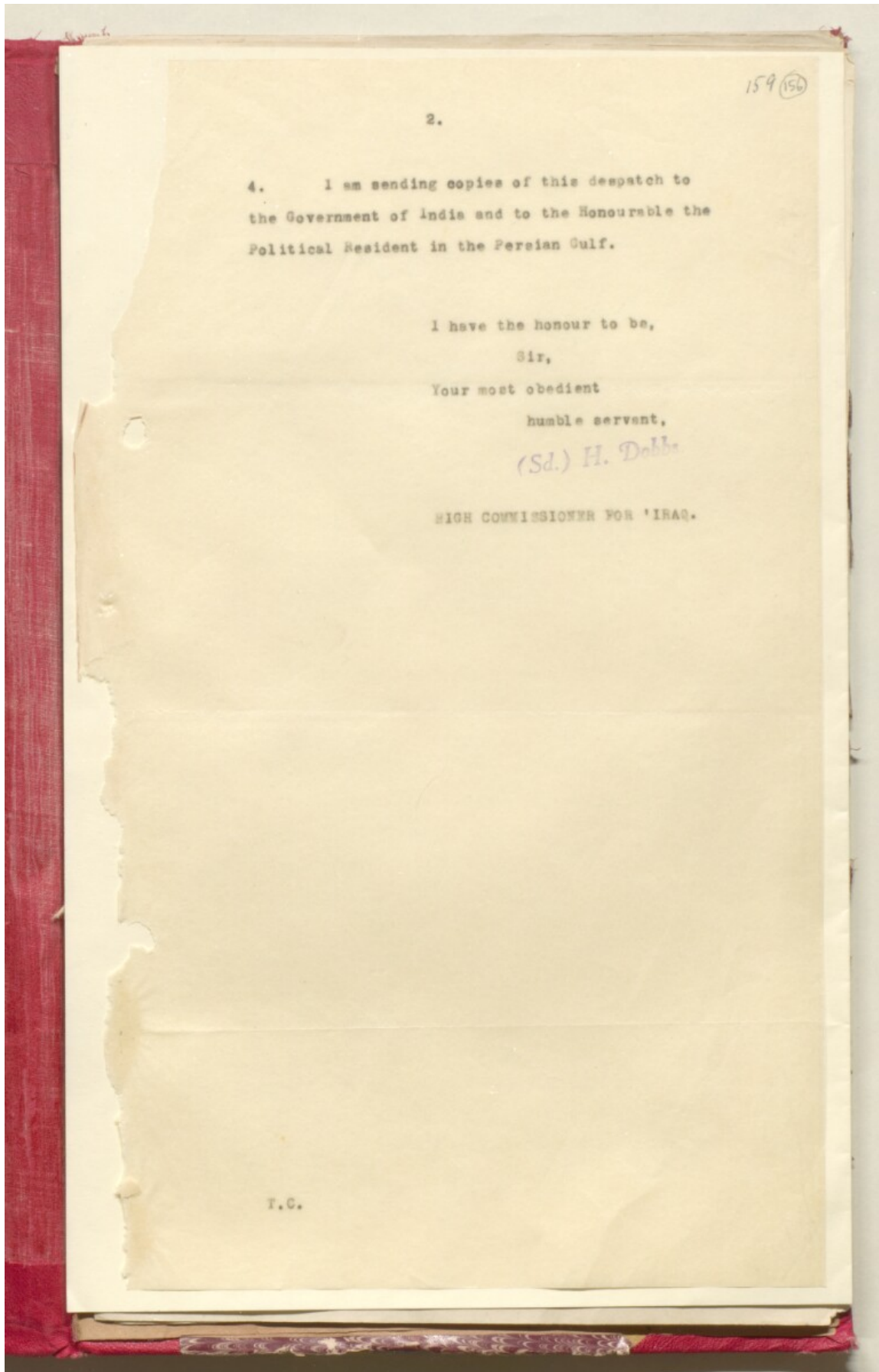


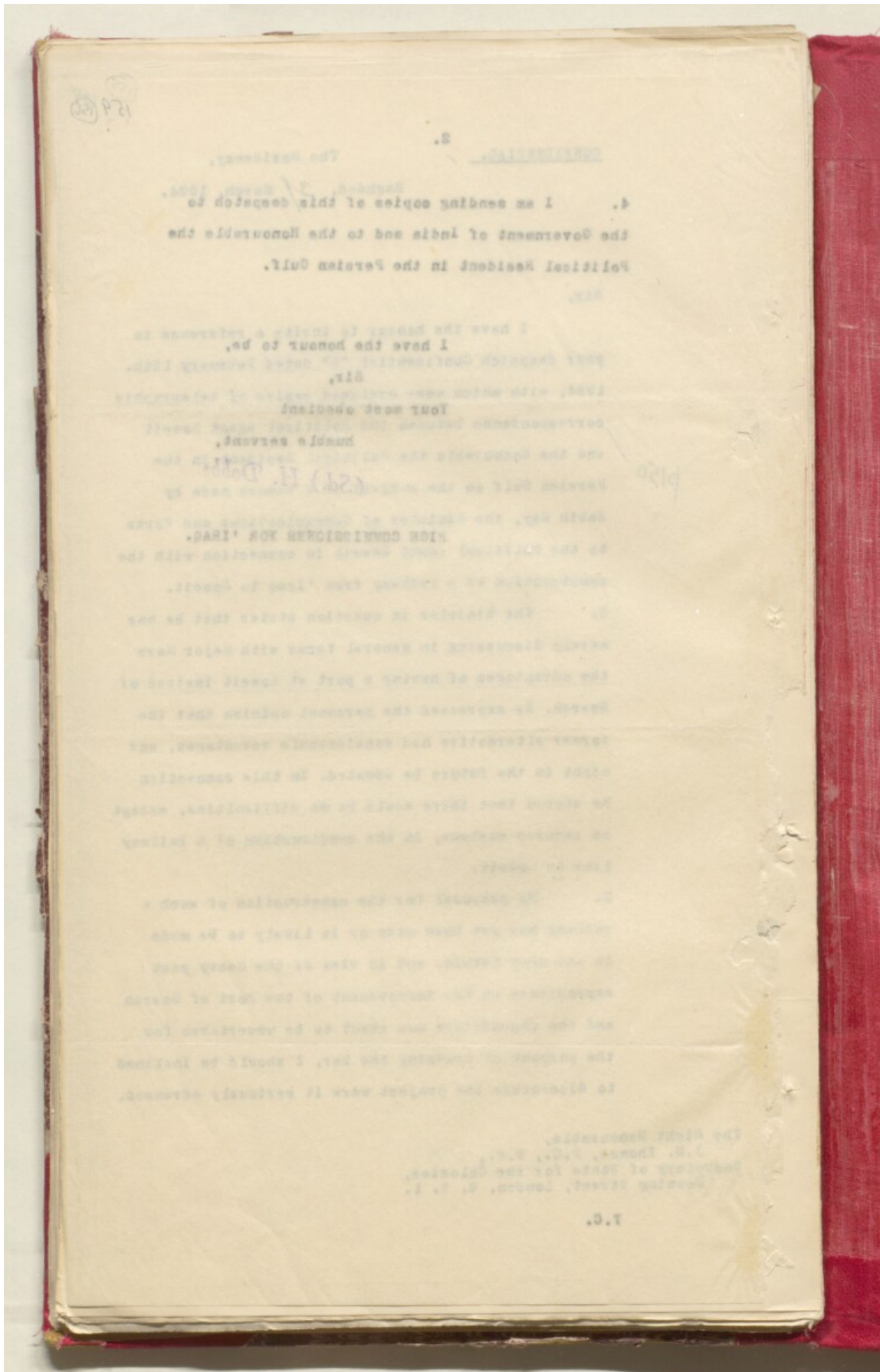


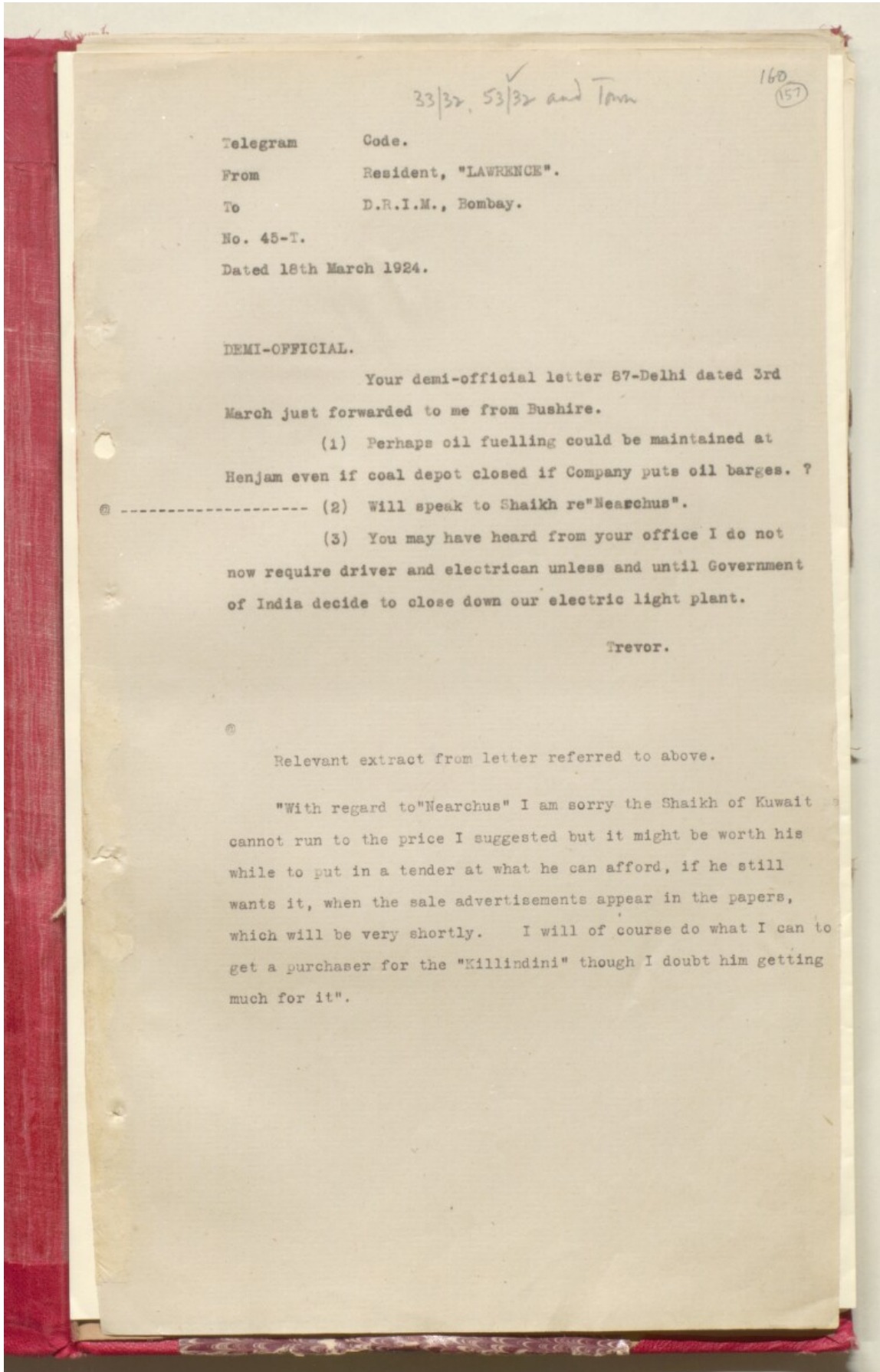












Telegram Code.
From Resident, "LAWRENCE".
To D.R.I.M., Bombay.
No. 45-T.
Dated 18th March 1924.

DEMI-OFFICIAL.

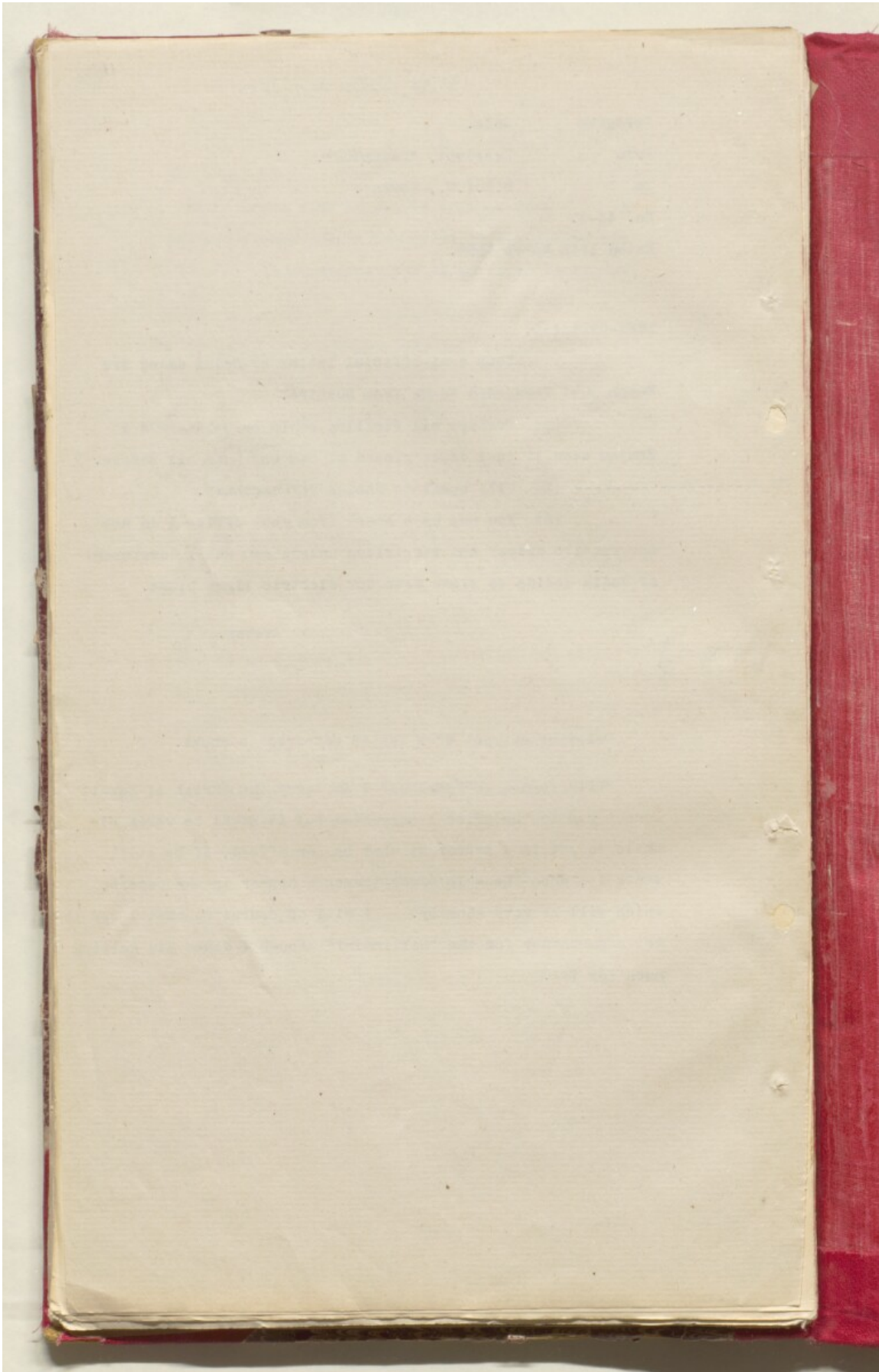
Your demi-official letter 87-Delhi dated 3rd March just forwarded to me from Bushire.

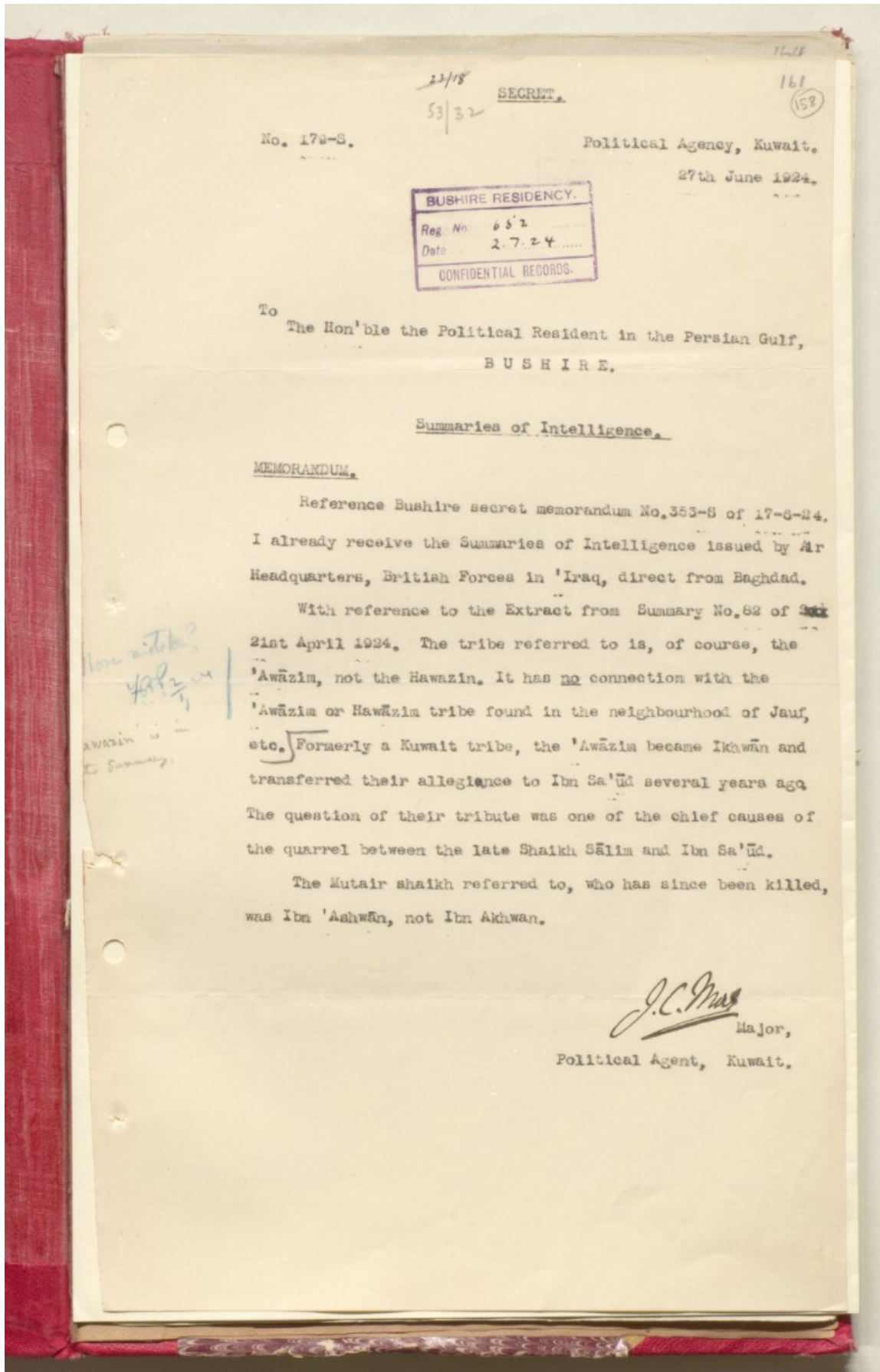
- (1) Perhaps oil fuelling could be maintained at Henjam even if coal depot closed if Company puts oil barges. ?
- (2) Will speak to Shaikh re "Nearchus".
- (3) You may have heard from your office I do not now require driver and electrician unless and until Government of India decide to close down our electric light plant.

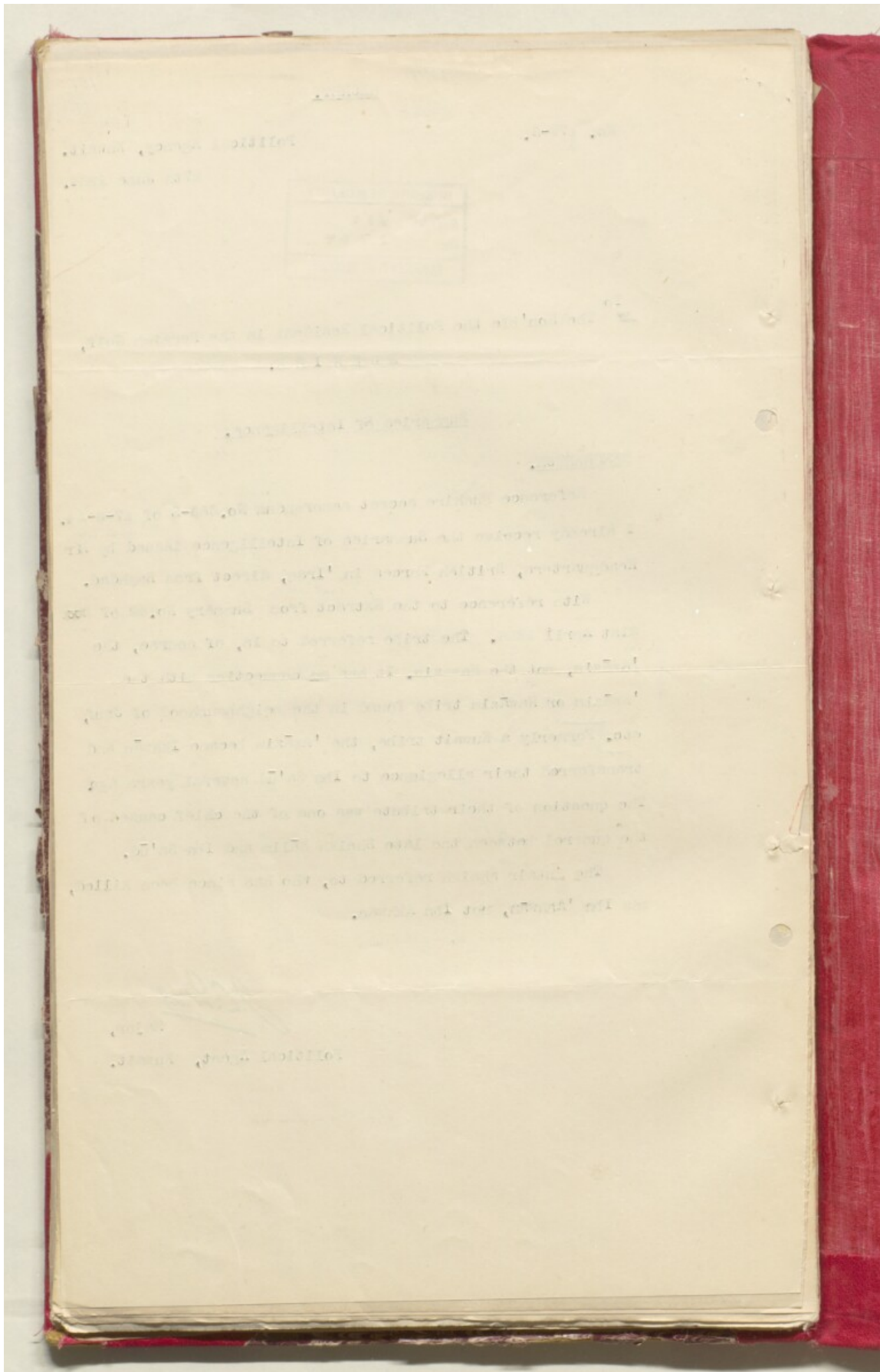
Trevor.

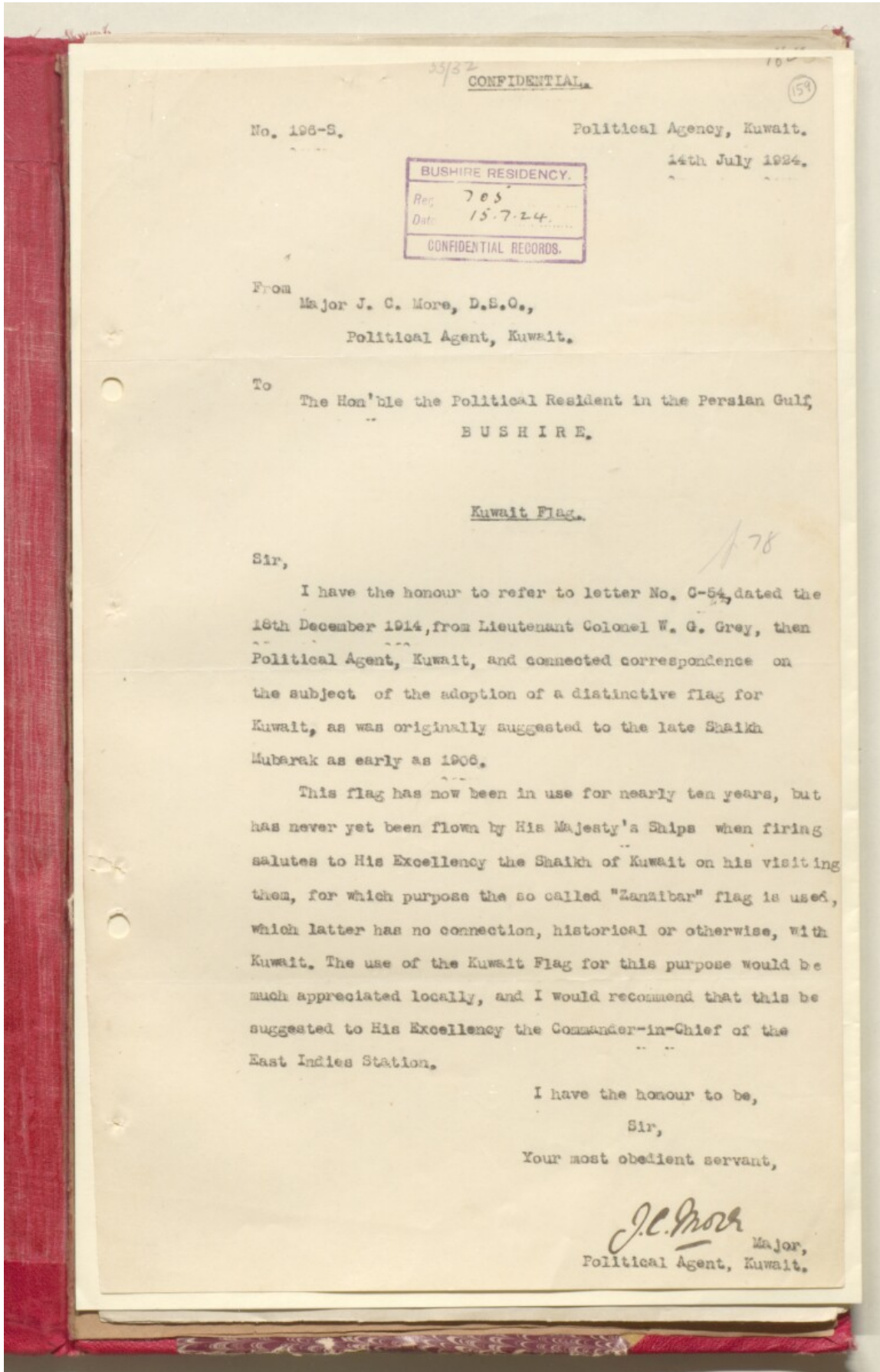
Relevant extract from letter referred to above.

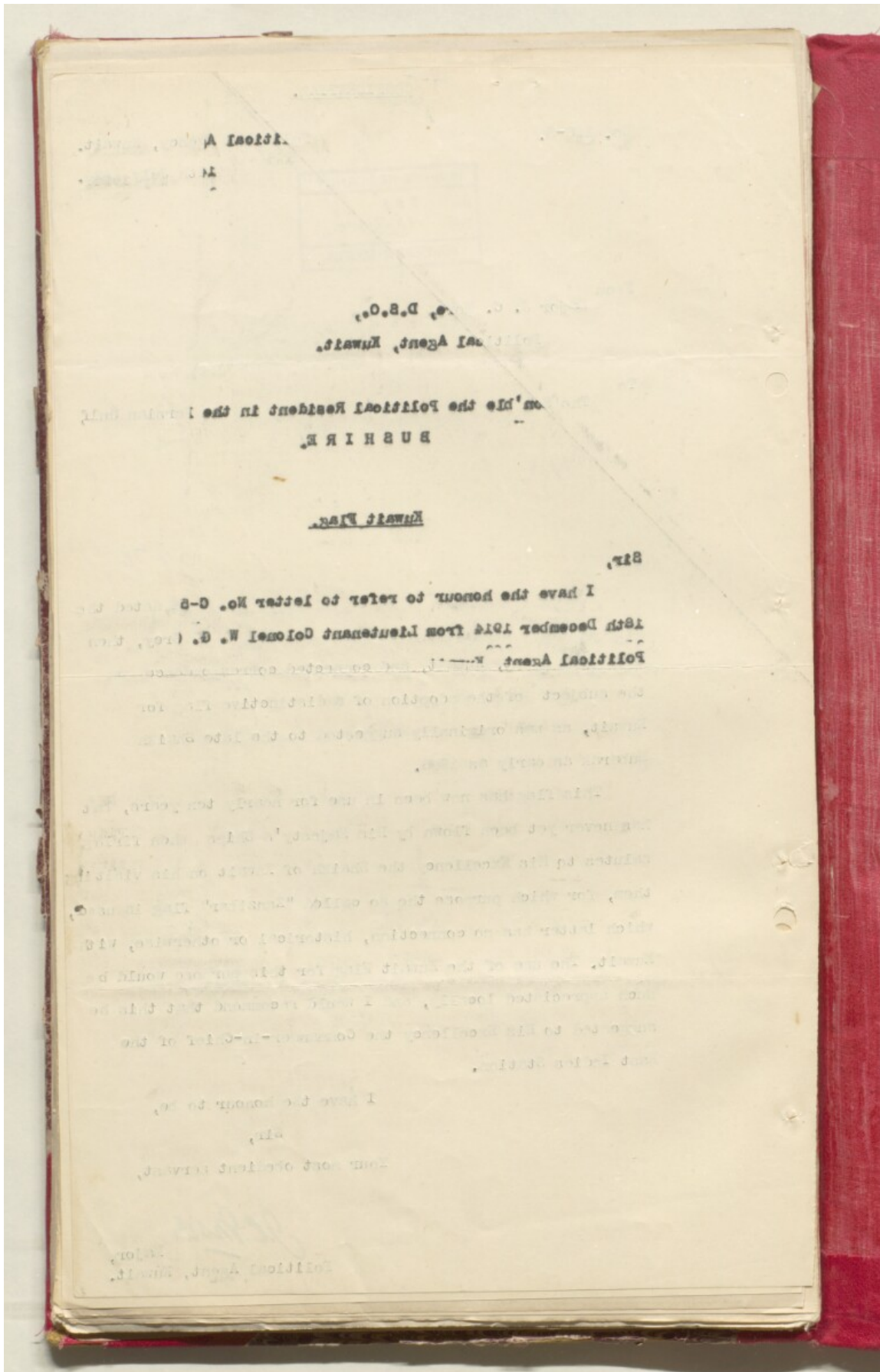
"With regard to 'Nearchus' I am sorry the Shaikh of Kuwait cannot run to the price I suggested but it might be worth his while to put in a tender at what he can afford, if he still wants it, when the sale advertisements appear in the papers, which will be very shortly. I will of course do what I can to get a purchaser for the 'Killindini' though I doubt him getting much for it".

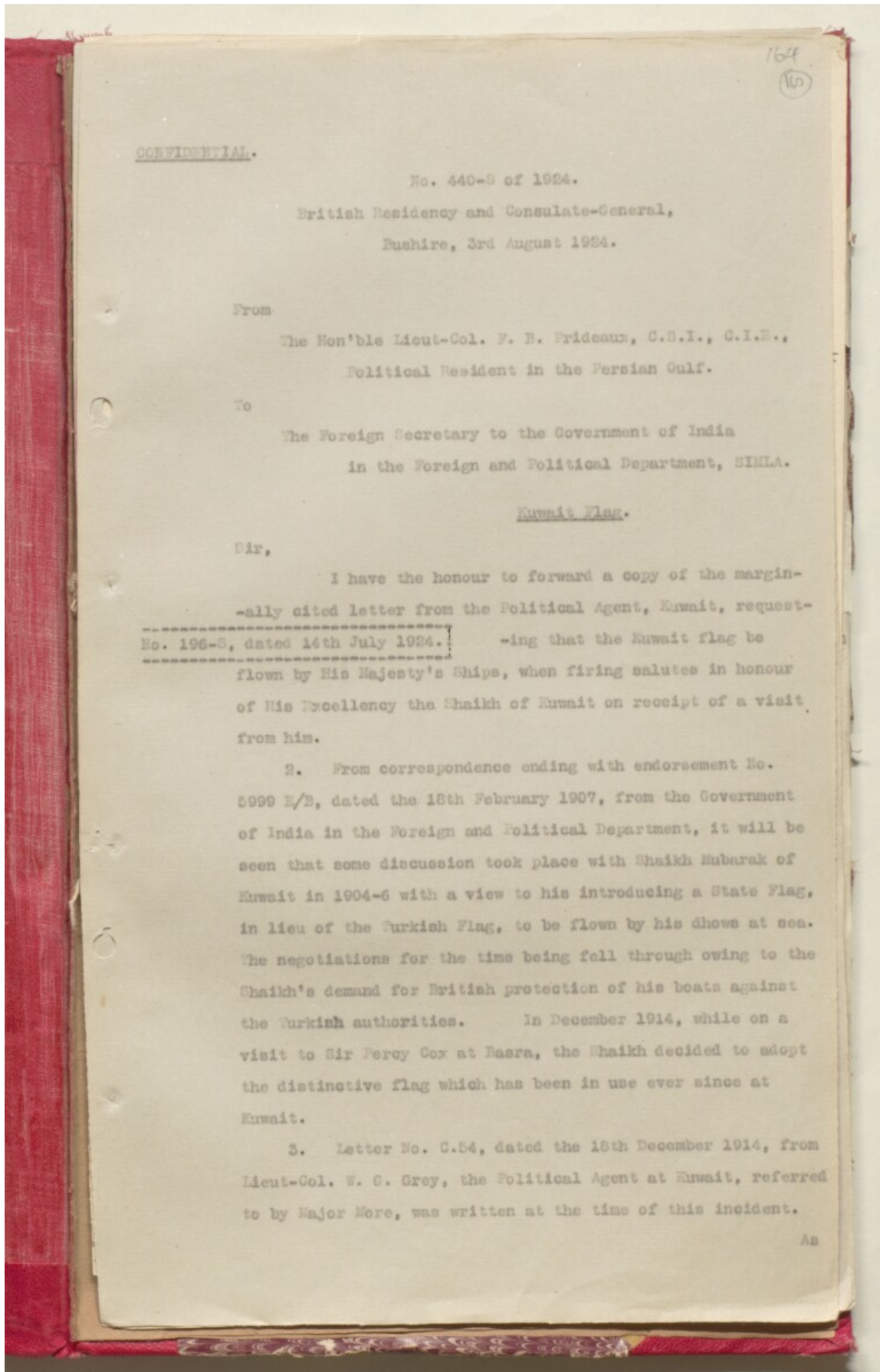












CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 440-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 3rd August 1924.

From

The Hon'ble Lieut-Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India
in the Foreign and Political Department, SIMLA.

Kuwait Flag.

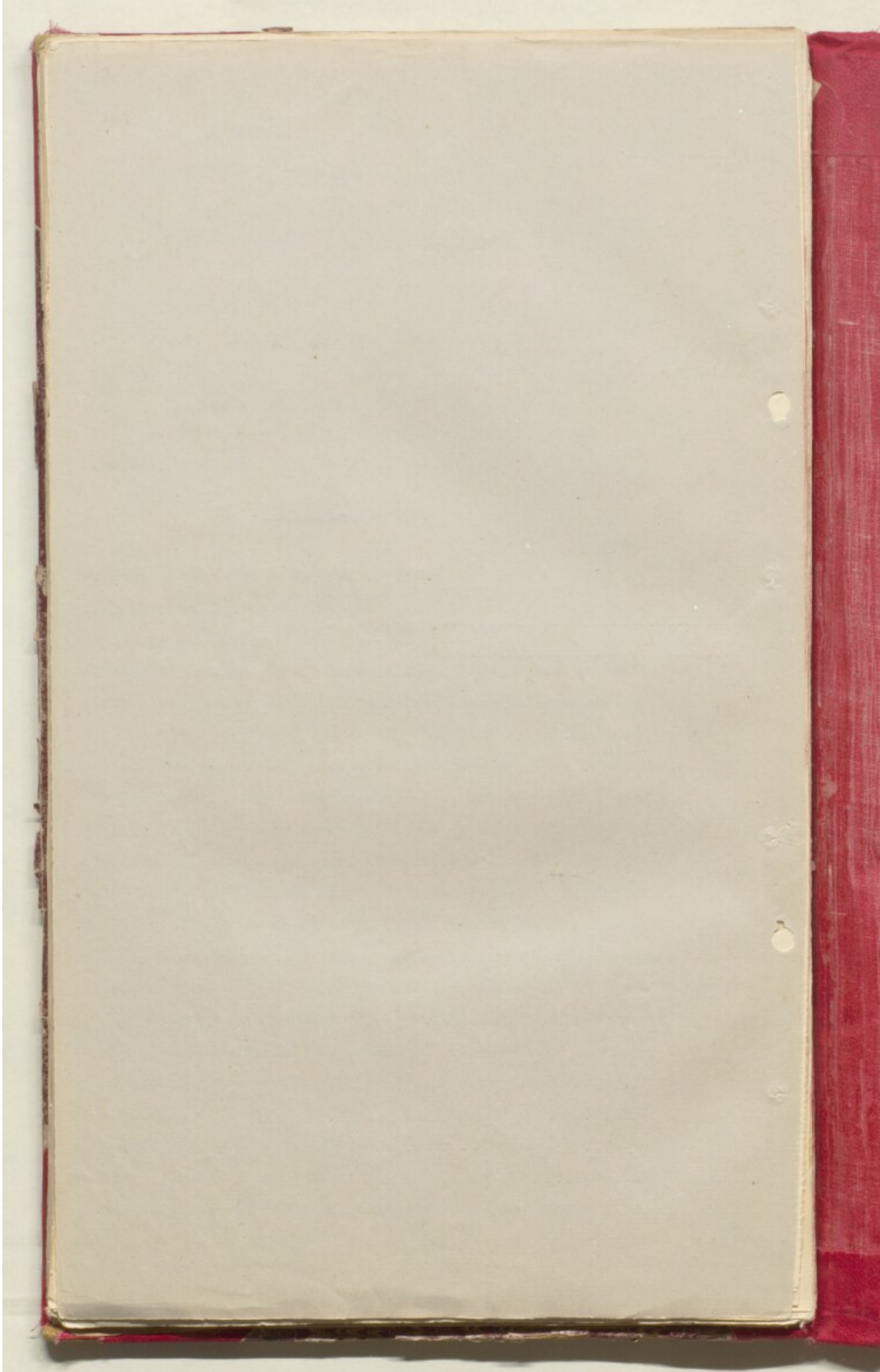
Sir,

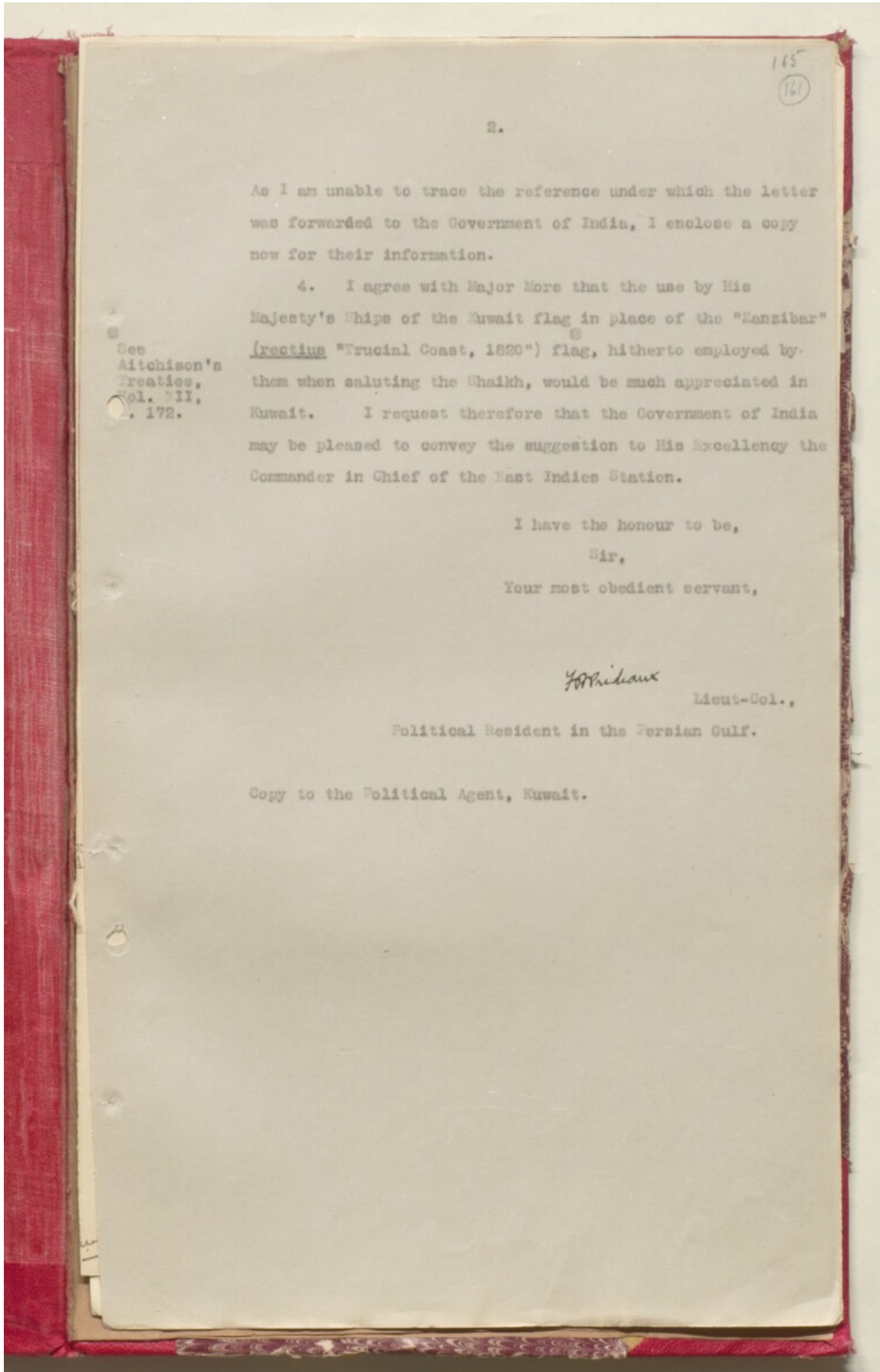
I have the honour to forward a copy of the margin-
ally cited letter from the Political Agent, Kuwait, request-
No. 196-S, dated 14th July 1924. -ing that the Kuwait flag be
flown by His Majesty's Ships, when firing salutes in honour
of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit
from him.

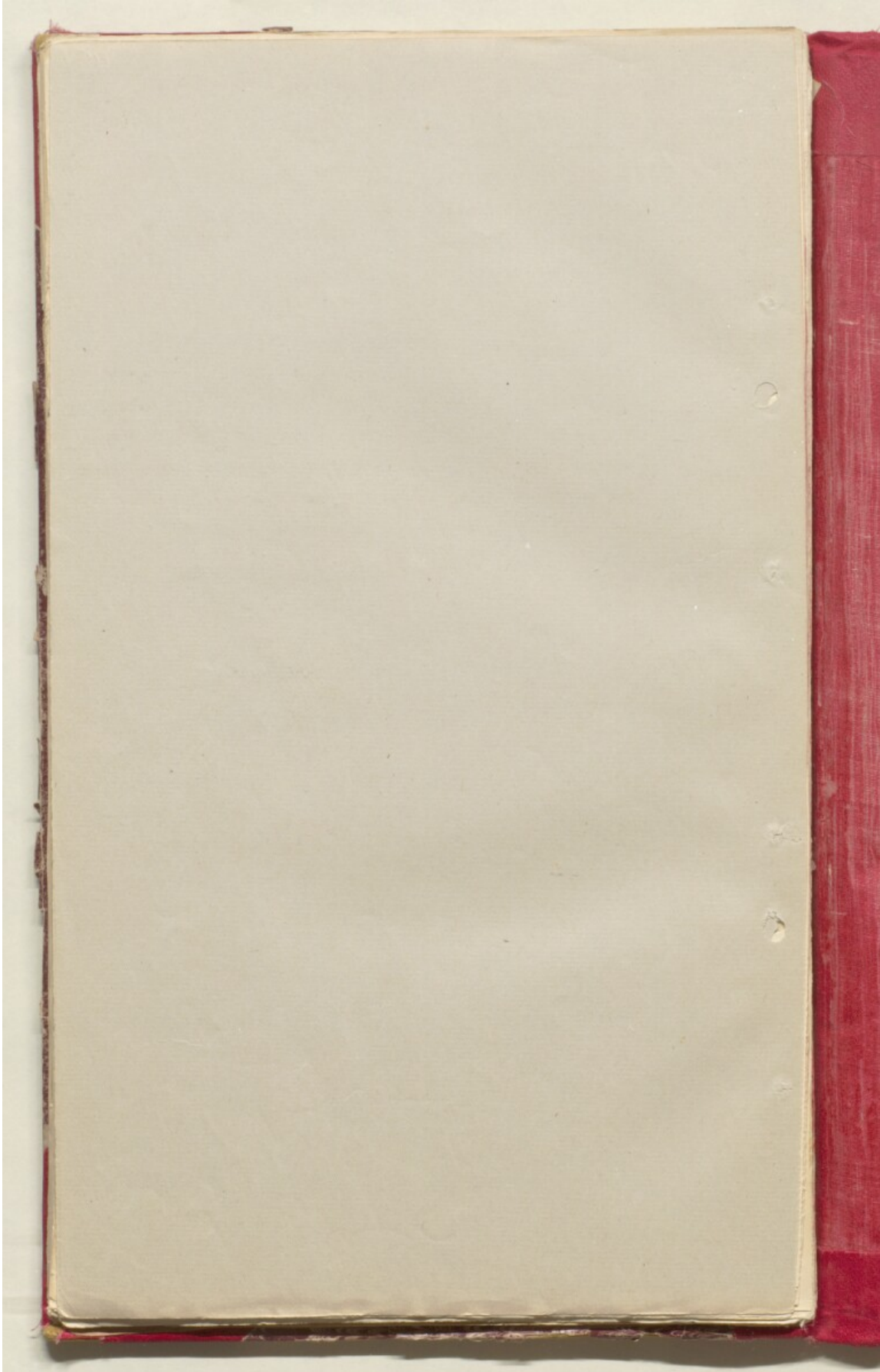
2. From correspondence ending with endorsement No.
5999 E/B, dated the 18th February 1907, from the Government
of India in the Foreign and Political Department, it will be
seen that some discussion took place with Shaikh Mubarak of
Kuwait in 1904-6 with a view to his introducing a State Flag,
in lieu of the Turkish Flag, to be flown by his dhows at sea.
The negotiations for the time being fell through owing to the
Shaikh's demand for British protection of his boats against
the Turkish authorities. In December 1914, while on a
visit to Sir Percy Cox at Basra, the Shaikh decided to adopt
the distinctive flag which has been in use ever since at
Kuwait.

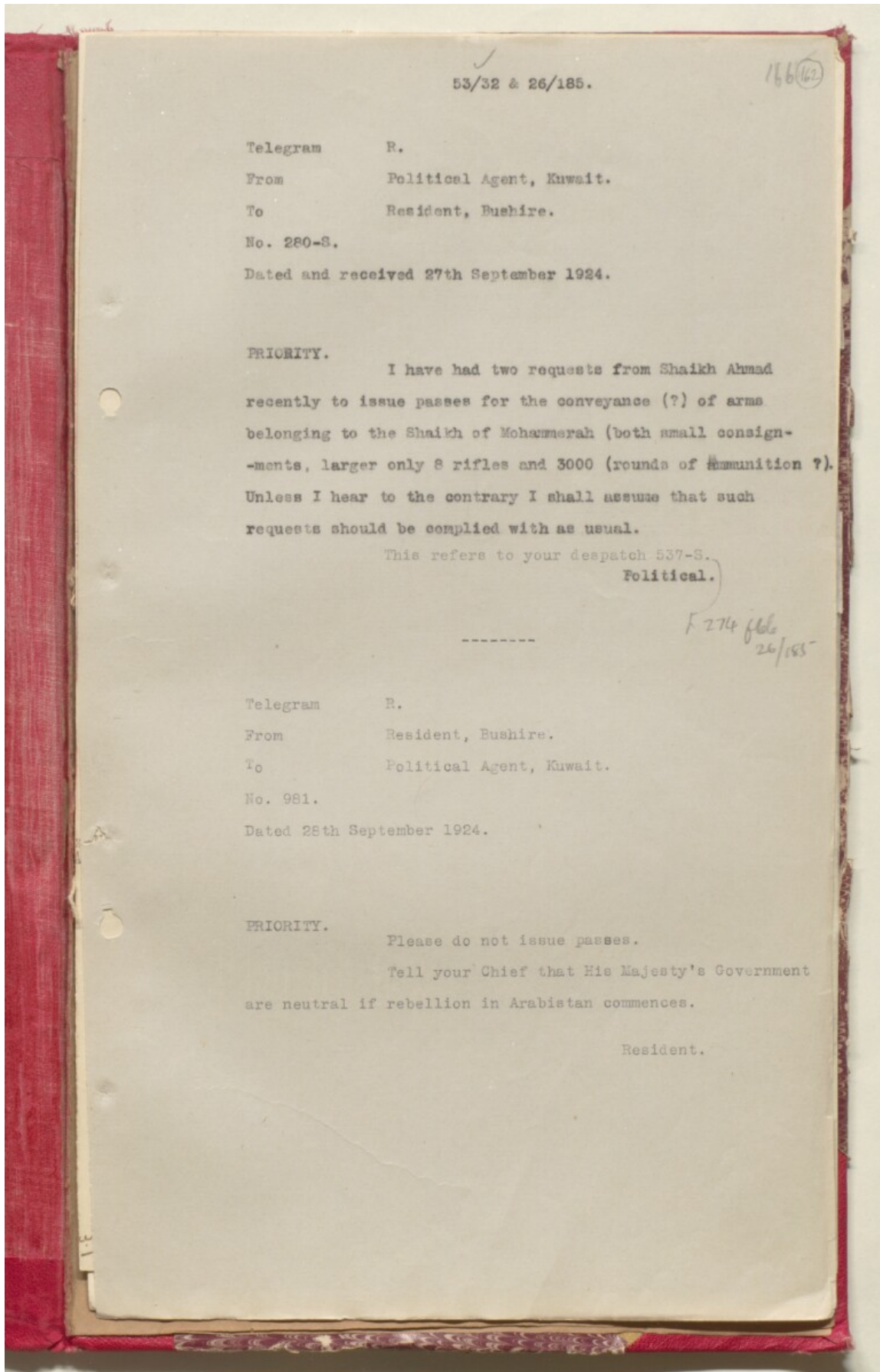
3. Letter No. C.54, dated the 18th December 1914, from
Lieut-Col. W. G. Grey, the Political Agent at Kuwait, referred
to by Major More, was written at the time of this incident.

As









53/32 & 26/185.

166/162

Telegram R.
From Political Agent, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire.
No. 280-S.
Dated and received 27th September 1924.

PRIORITY.

I have had two requests from Shaikh Ahmad recently to issue passes for the conveyance (?) of arms belonging to the Shaikh of Mohammerah (both small consignments, larger only 8 rifles and 3000 (rounds of ammunition ?). Unless I hear to the contrary I shall assume that such requests should be complied with as usual.

This refers to your despatch 537-S.
Political.

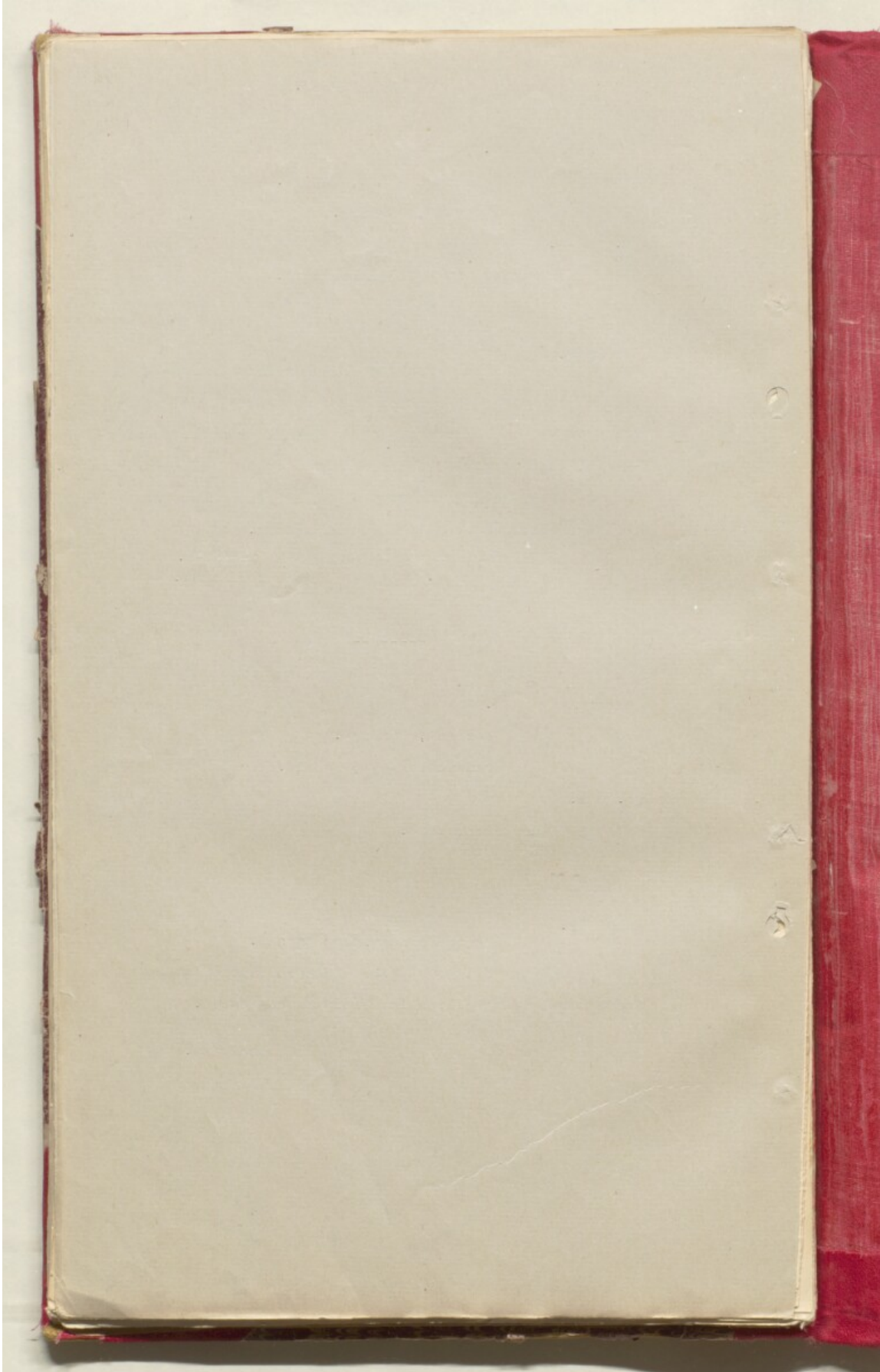
F 274 f66
26/185

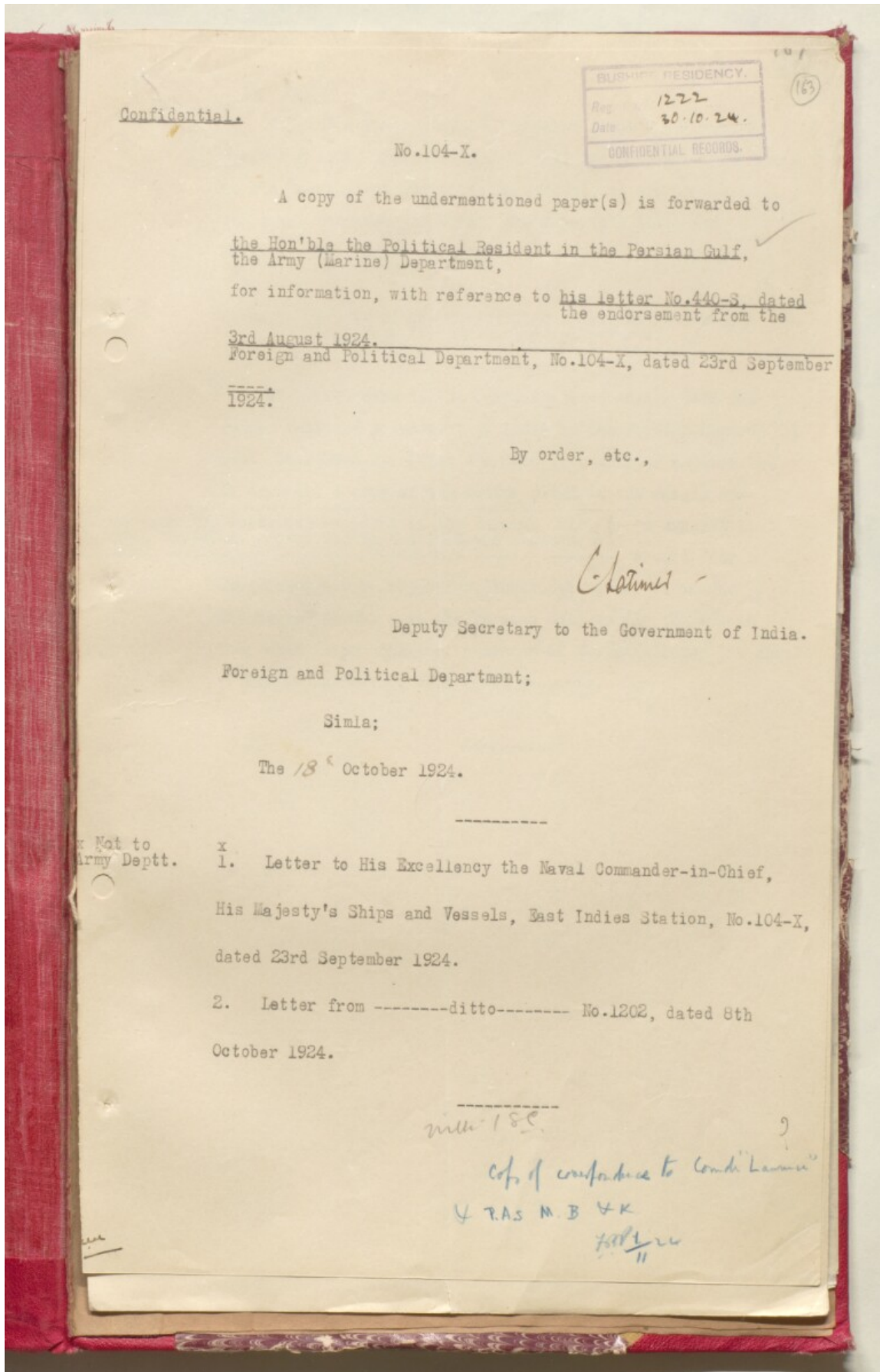
Telegram R.
From Resident, Bushire.
To Political Agent, Kuwait.
No. 981.
Dated 28th September 1924.

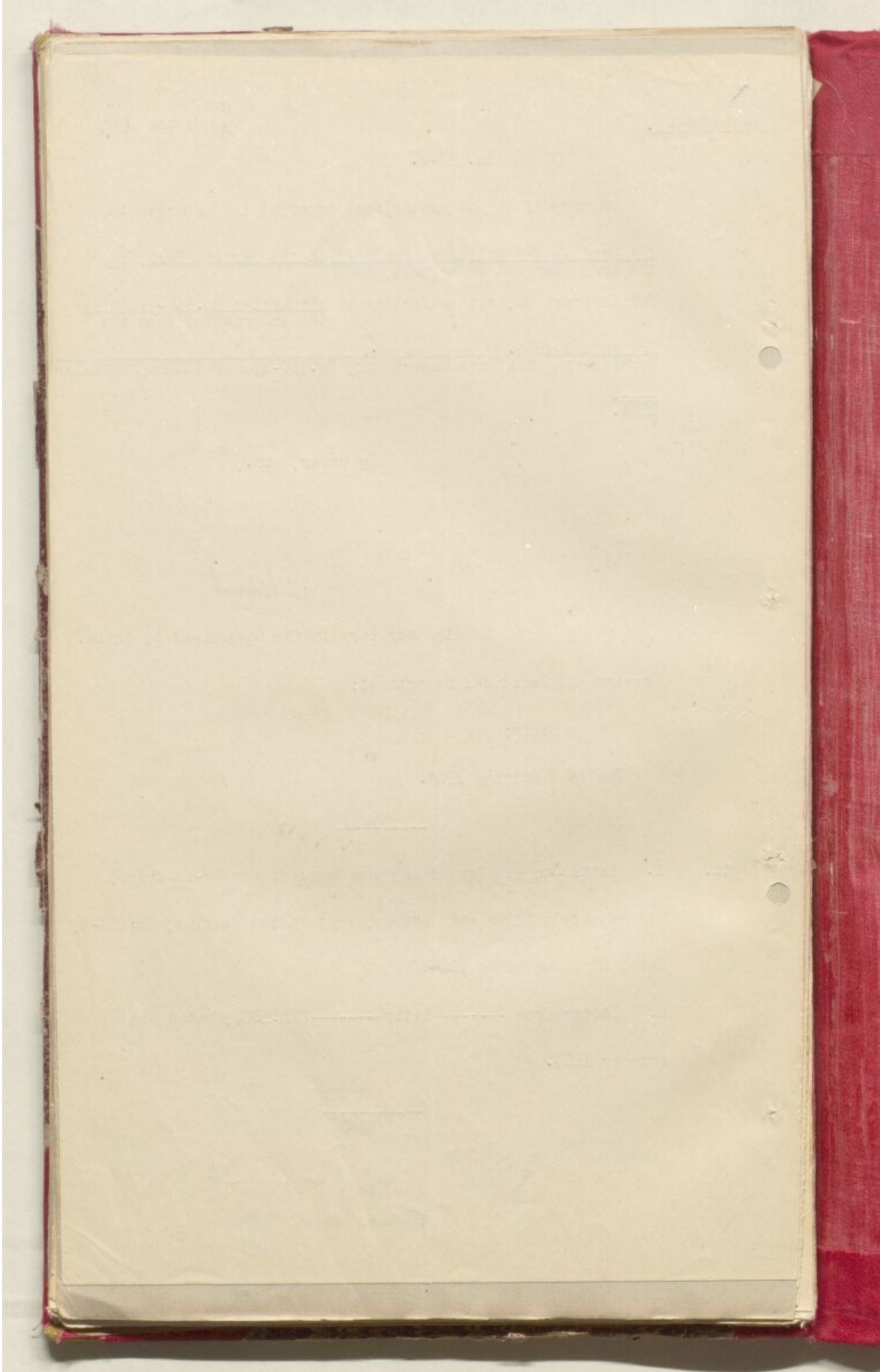
PRIORITY.

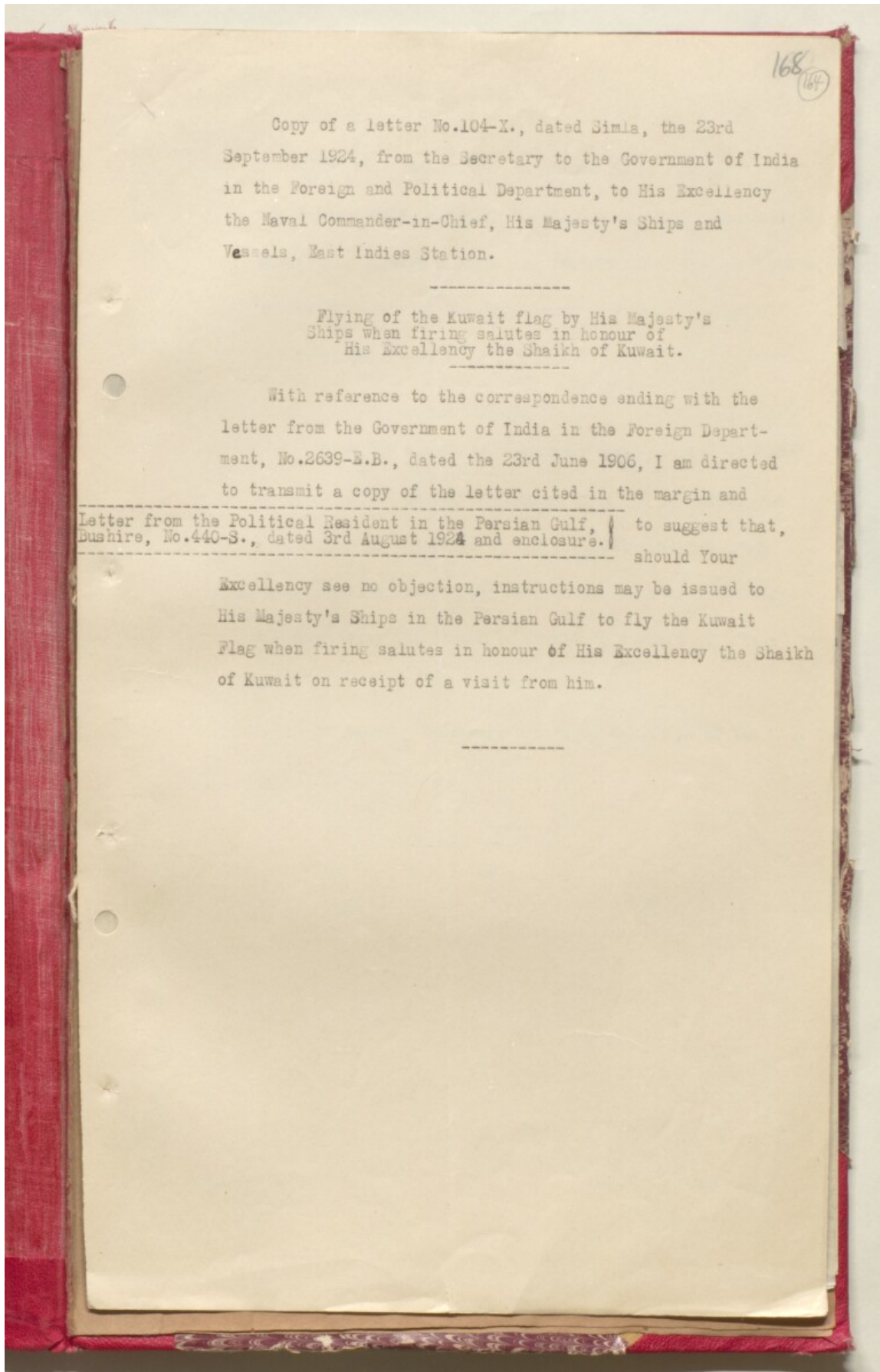
Please do not issue passes.
Tell your Chief that His Majesty's Government are neutral if rebellion in Arabistan commences.

Resident.





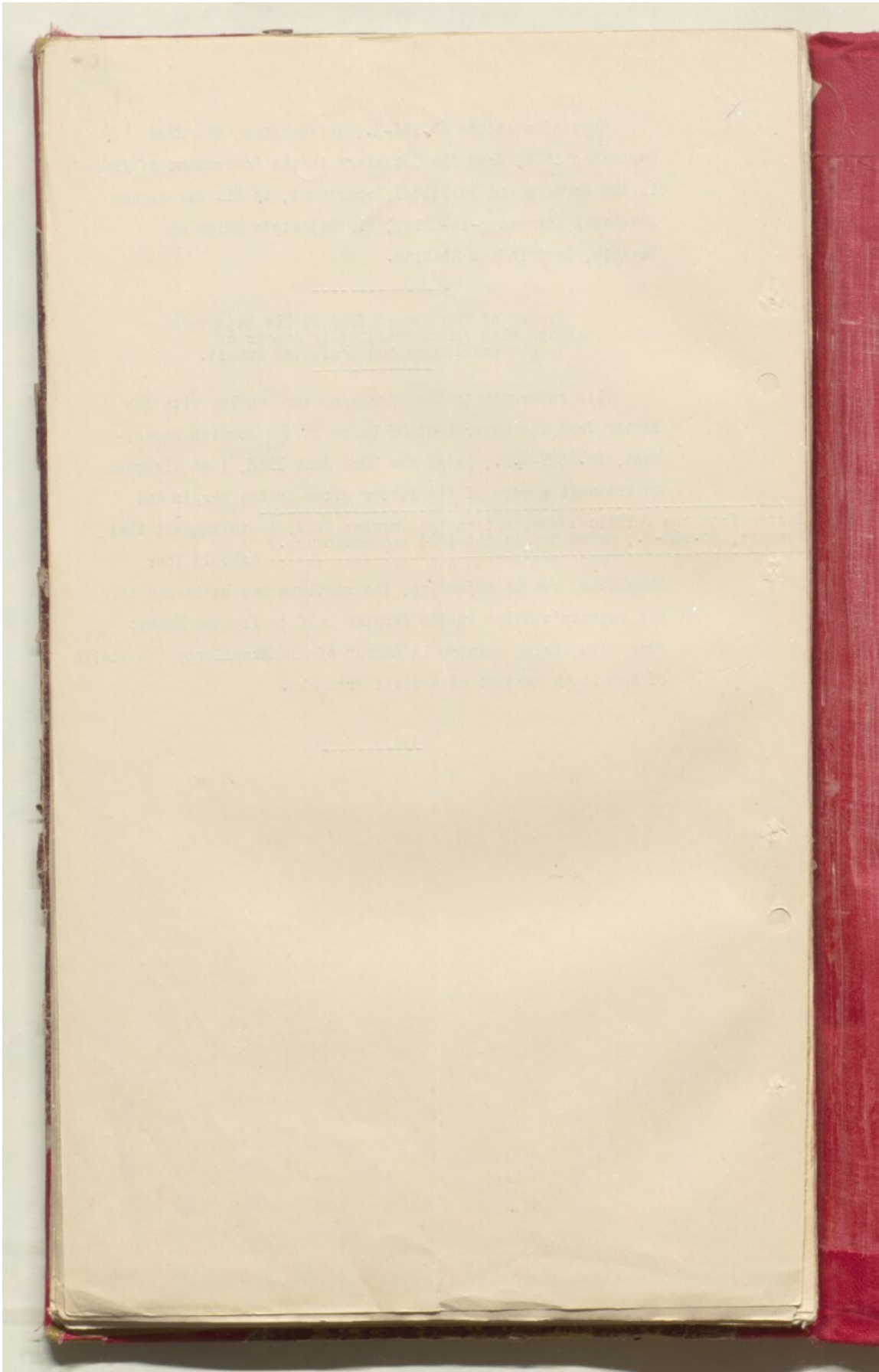


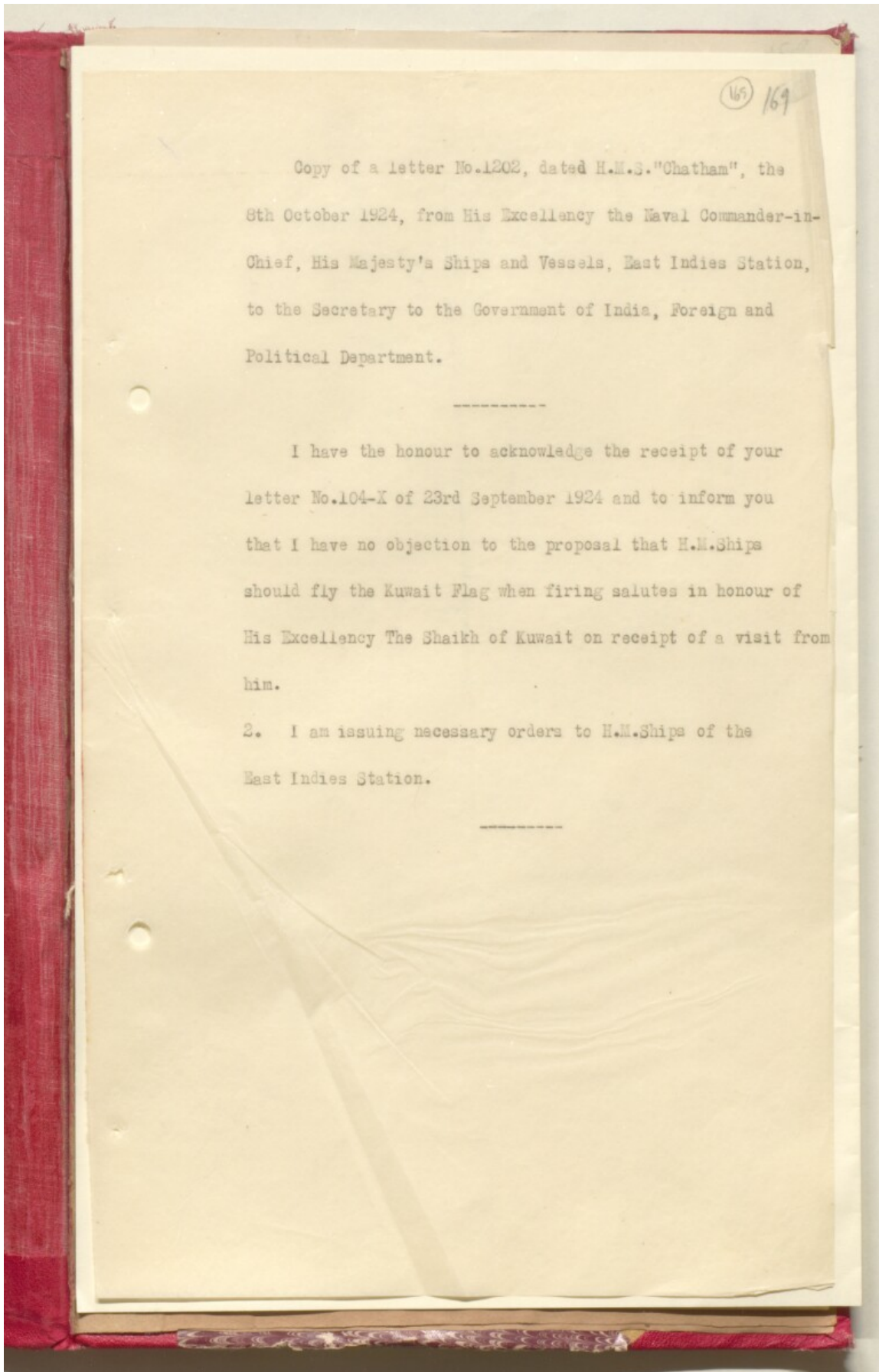


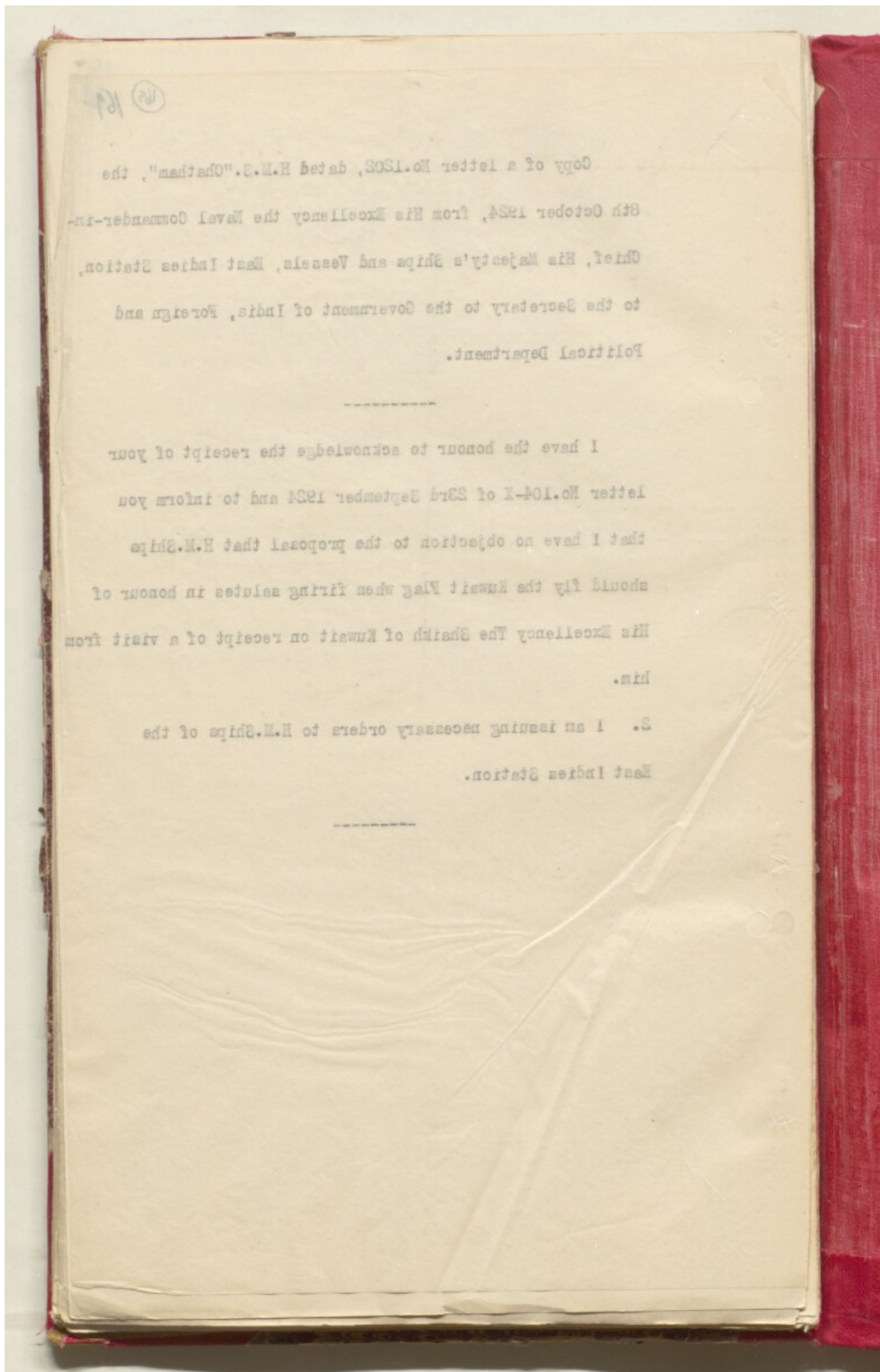
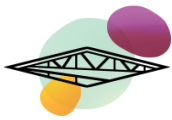
Copy of a letter No.104-X., dated Simla, the 23rd September 1924, from the Secretary to the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department, to His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station.

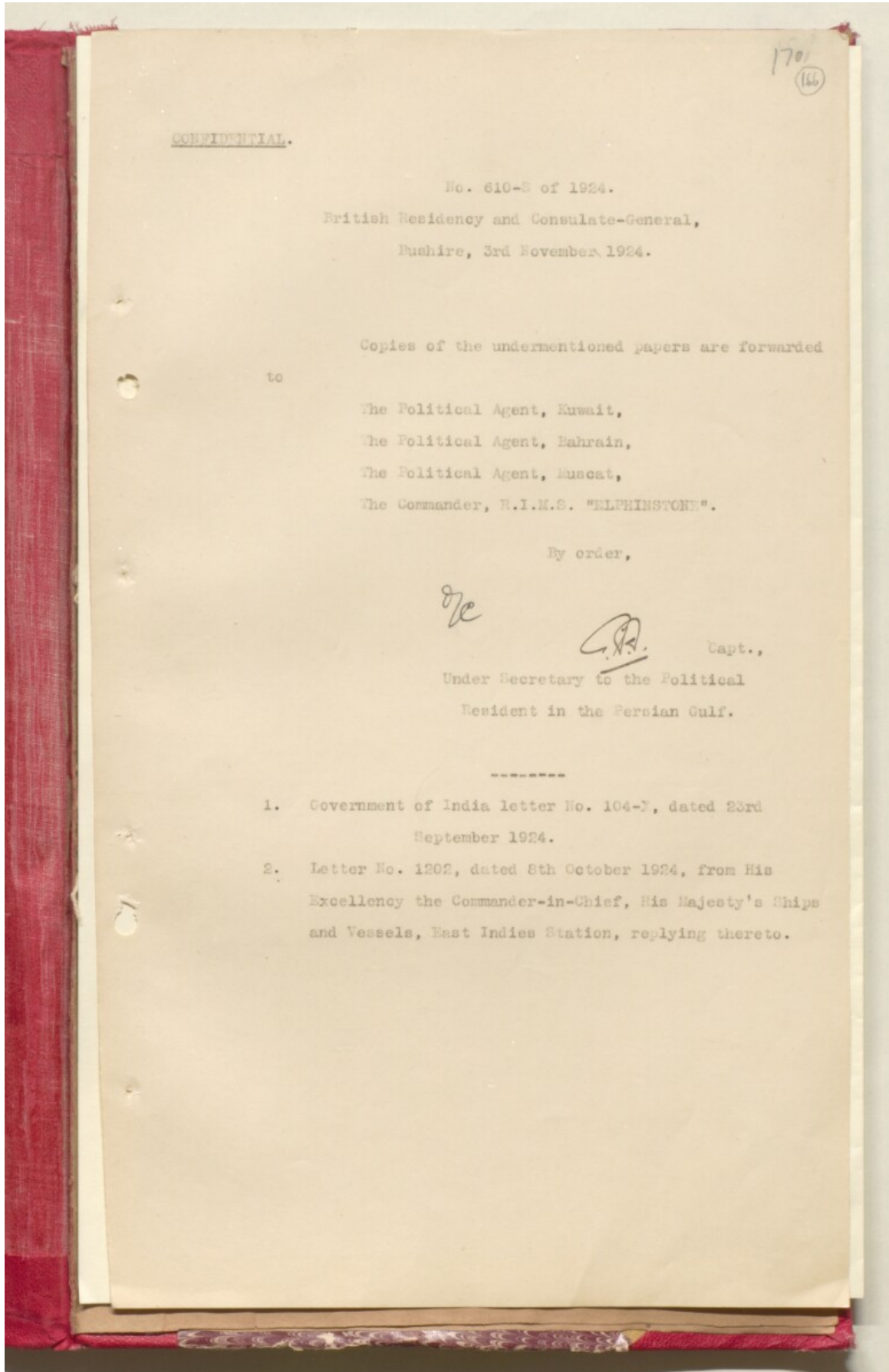
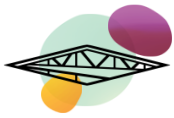
Flying of the Kuwait flag by His Majesty's Ships when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait.

With reference to the correspondence ending with the letter from the Government of India in the Foreign Department, No.2639-B.B., dated the 23rd June 1906, I am directed to transmit a copy of the letter cited in the margin and Letter from the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire, No.440-S., dated 3rd August 1924 and enclosures. to suggest that, should Your Excellency see no objection, instructions may be issued to His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf to fly the Kuwait Flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him.









CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 610-S of 1924.

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 3rd November 1924.

Copies of the undermentioned papers are forwarded

to

The Political Agent, Kuwait,

The Political Agent, Bahrain,

The Political Agent, Muscat,

The Commander, R.I.M.S. "ELPHINSTONE".

By order,

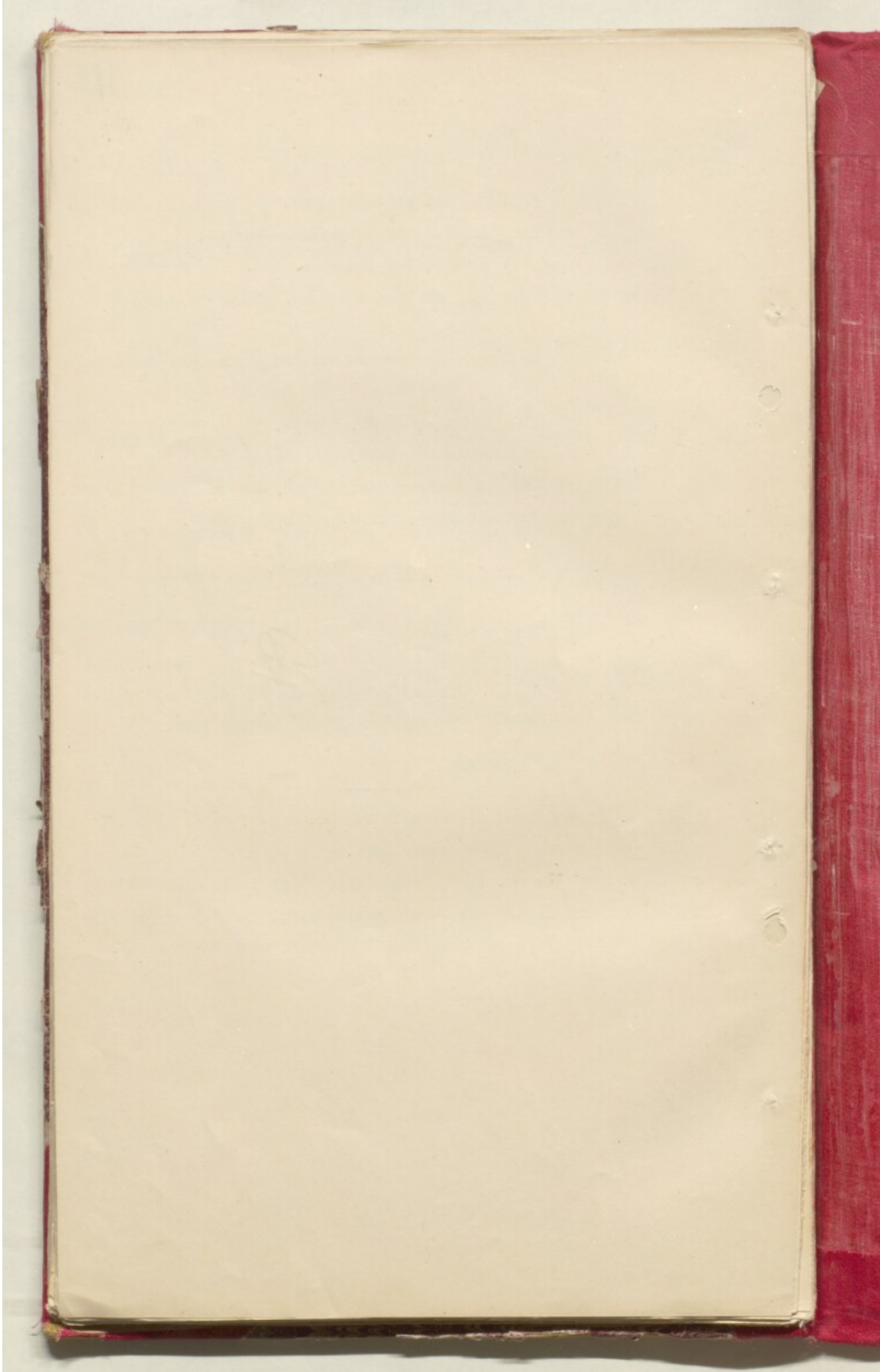
gc

G.A.

Capt.,

Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.

-
1. Government of India letter No. 104-F, dated 23rd September 1924.
 2. Letter No. 1202, dated 8th October 1924, from His Excellency the Commander-in-Chief, His Majesty's Ships and Vessels, East Indies Station, replying thereto.





33/32 177 (167)

Salutes.
D.Regr.No.10.

No.1074-M.
Government of India,
Marine Department.
Simla, the 25th October 1924.

Reg. No. 1299
Date 21-10-24
CONFIDENTIAL RECORD

To
The Director, Royal Indian Marine.

FLYING OF THE KUWAIT FLAG BY
R.I.M. SHIPS WHEN FIRING SALUTES IN
HONOUR OF HIS EXCELLENCY THE SHAIKH
OF KUWAIT.

Sir,

I am directed to state that in consultation with His Excellency the Naval Commander-in-Chief, East Indies Station, it has been arranged that His Majesty's Ships in the Persian Gulf will fly the Kuwait flag when firing salutes in honour of His Excellency the Shaikh of Kuwait on receipt of a visit from him. I am to request that this procedure may ~~also~~ be followed by Royal Indian Marine Ships in the Persian Gulf on similar occasions.

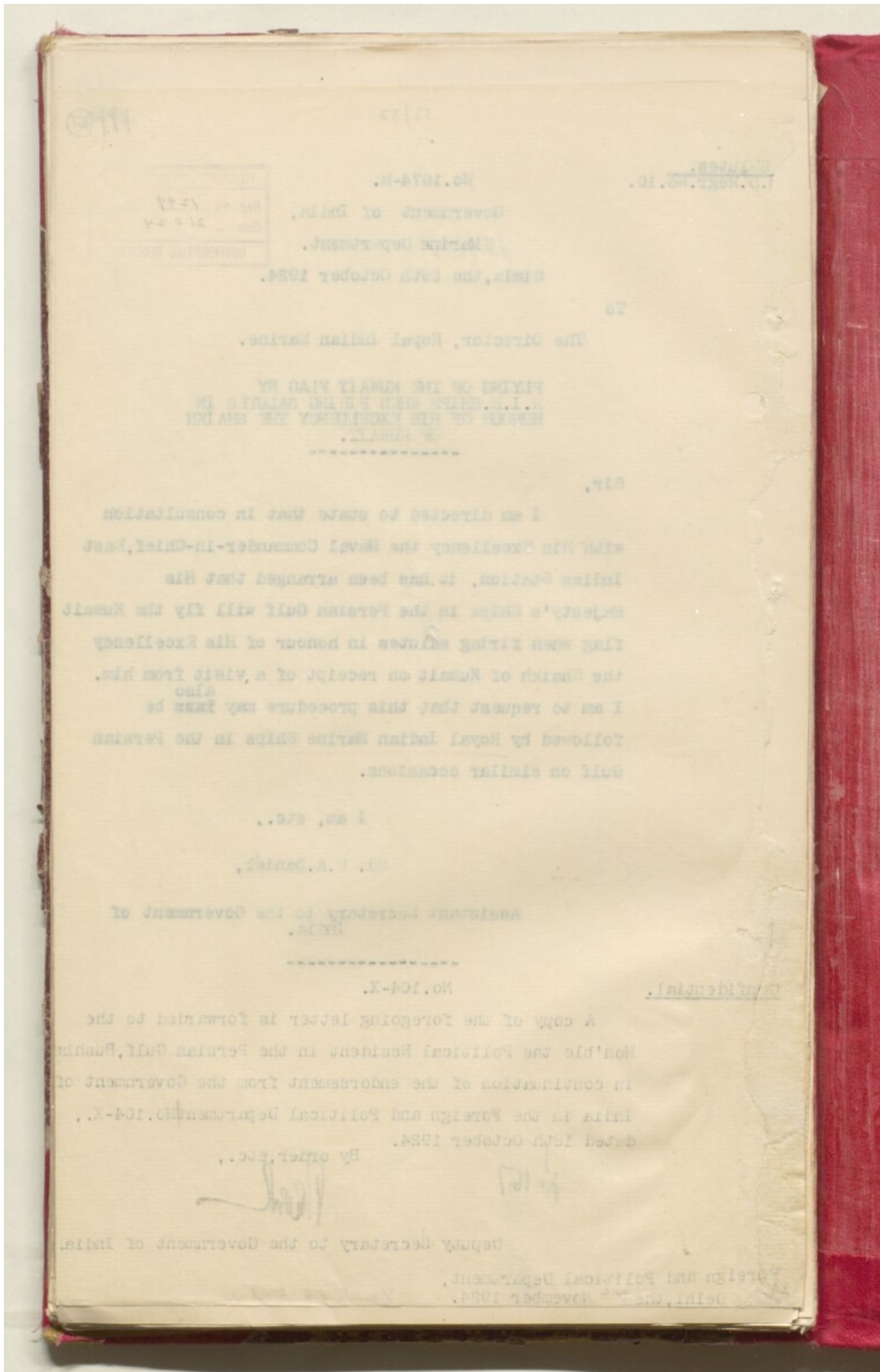
I am, etc.,
Ed. F.A. Daniel,
Assistant Secretary to the Government of India.

Confidential. No.104-X.

A copy of the foregoing letter is forwarded to the Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire in continuation of the endorsement from the Government of India in the Foreign and Political Department No.104-X., dated 18th October 1924.

By order, etc.,
Deputy Secretary to the Government of India.

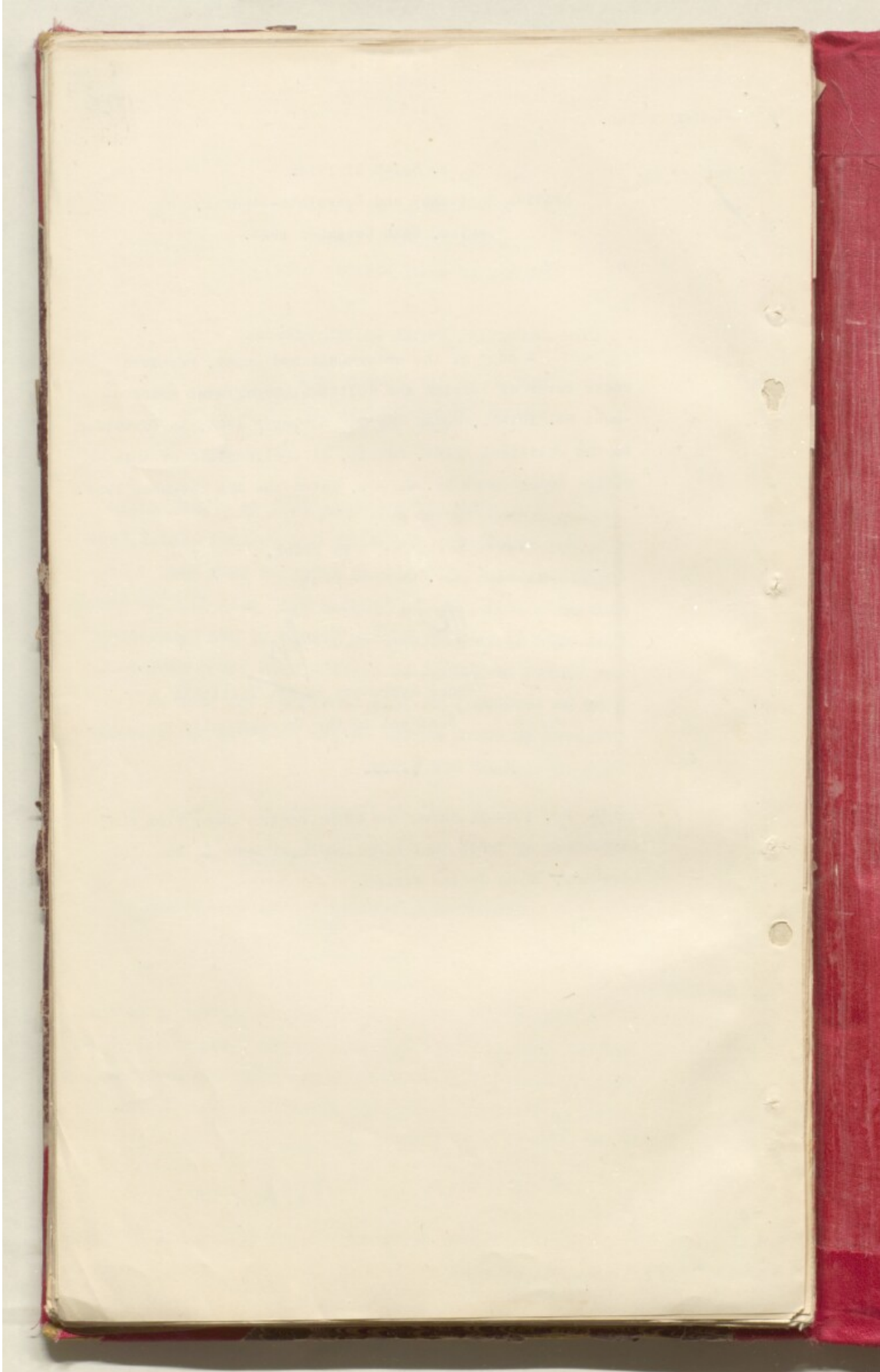
Foreign and Political Department,
Delhi, the 7th November 1924. (in the l.c.)



7c

Ms.

Capt.,





53/32 175 (163)

No. 62-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
3rd March 1925.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg No. 217
Date 11.3.25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.
Murder near Kuwait.

MEMORANDUM.

On the 14th January 1925 two Kuwait subjects, named 'Abdullah bin Ghunaimān and Sa'ūd bin 'Aibān, together with four Najdis, named Ibrahim al-'Abdullah al-Fauzān, 'Abdul 'Azīz bin Najrān, Jifin al-'Ajmi and 'Idān, left Kuwait for Najd, and halted for the night near Ma'danīyāt, fifteen miles south of the town.

A little after midnight two men, named Bajād al-Humaidāni and Muhammad abu Ramyah, who had apparently followed them up from Kuwait for the purpose, made an unexpected murderous attack on them. They killed 'Abdullah bin Ghunaimān and Jifin on the spot, and wounded Sa'ūd and 'Idān (of whom the latter died after being brought to Kuwait), while the other two fled and escaped unhurt. The murderers got away with all the property belonging to the six men.

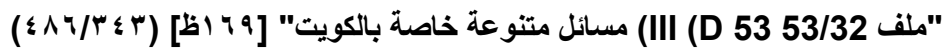
The Shaikh of Kuwait, who has been trying to trace the murderers ever since, now tells me that he has learnt that they are living with Abu Shuwairibāt in 'Iraq territory. He asks that the Government of 'Iraq may be requested assist him in bringing the murderers to book, and in recovering the stolen property - of which a list is attached.

The Shaikh tells me that Bajād al-Humaidāni is a Mutairi whom Ibn Sa'ūd expelled from Najd some time ago. He spent some time in this neighbourhood, and later with the 'Iraq tribes. He came to Kuwait town via the Khuwair about December. Muhammad abu Ramyah is also a Mutairi, and was living in Kuwait.

Copy, with compliments, to:-
The Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq,
Baghdad.
The Administrative Inspector, Basrah.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

D. H. K. 1/10/25





176 (170)

List of things stolen by Bajād al-Humaidāni & Muhammad abu Ramyah.

	ET.	Rs.
<u>Belonging to 'Abdullah al-Ghungimān</u>		
One saddlebag containing two cloaks (one not made up)	10.	120.
One thin cloak		25.
Half a roll of calico & 2 rolls of cheap red cloth, six head cloths & a woman's cloak		71.
One carpet, 9½ lbs. coffee, 3½ lbs. incense, some musk and rose scent		135.
One Mauzer rifle and fifty rounds of ammunition	20.	
Cash	11. 50.	80.

<u>Belonging to Ibrāhīm al-'Abdullah al-Fauzān.</u>		
One riding camel	300	
One cloak @ Rs.50/-, one new rug @ Rs.40/, a complete camel saddle		118
Yarn to the value of Rs.110/-, incense & scent		160
3 thaubs, 3 dishdashahs, 2 new large head cloths		25
'Aqals, looking glasses, scissors		33
Cash	10	

<u>Belonging to 'Abdul 'Azīz bin Najrān.</u>		
A red saddle bag & 2 small saddle bags @ Rs.26/-, one thick cloak & one thin one		76
2 dozen head cloths @ Rs.40/-, thaubs, dishdashahs, &c		53
9½ lbs. coffee, 9½ lbs sugar, 4 lbs. tea & 1 lb. incense		56
one cooking pot, one compass & three knives		9
Dried lemons, pepper, cloves & cardamom		20
Cash	65	
A purse, containing papers & documents.		

<u>Belonging to Sa'ūd al-'Aibān.</u>		
One riding camel	10	
2 saddle bags & one orange cloak		50
One carpet	3	
4 Four thaubs and a piece of cloth worth Rs.4/-		16
A bundle containing incense, gold thread, etc		40
1 dozen head cloths @ Rs.20/- and half a roll of cheap red cloth @ Rs.8/-		28
One bundle of "suwaihil" cloth @ Rs.30/-, one skin bag containing silk and gold thread		50
3 bundles of "shash" cloth		20

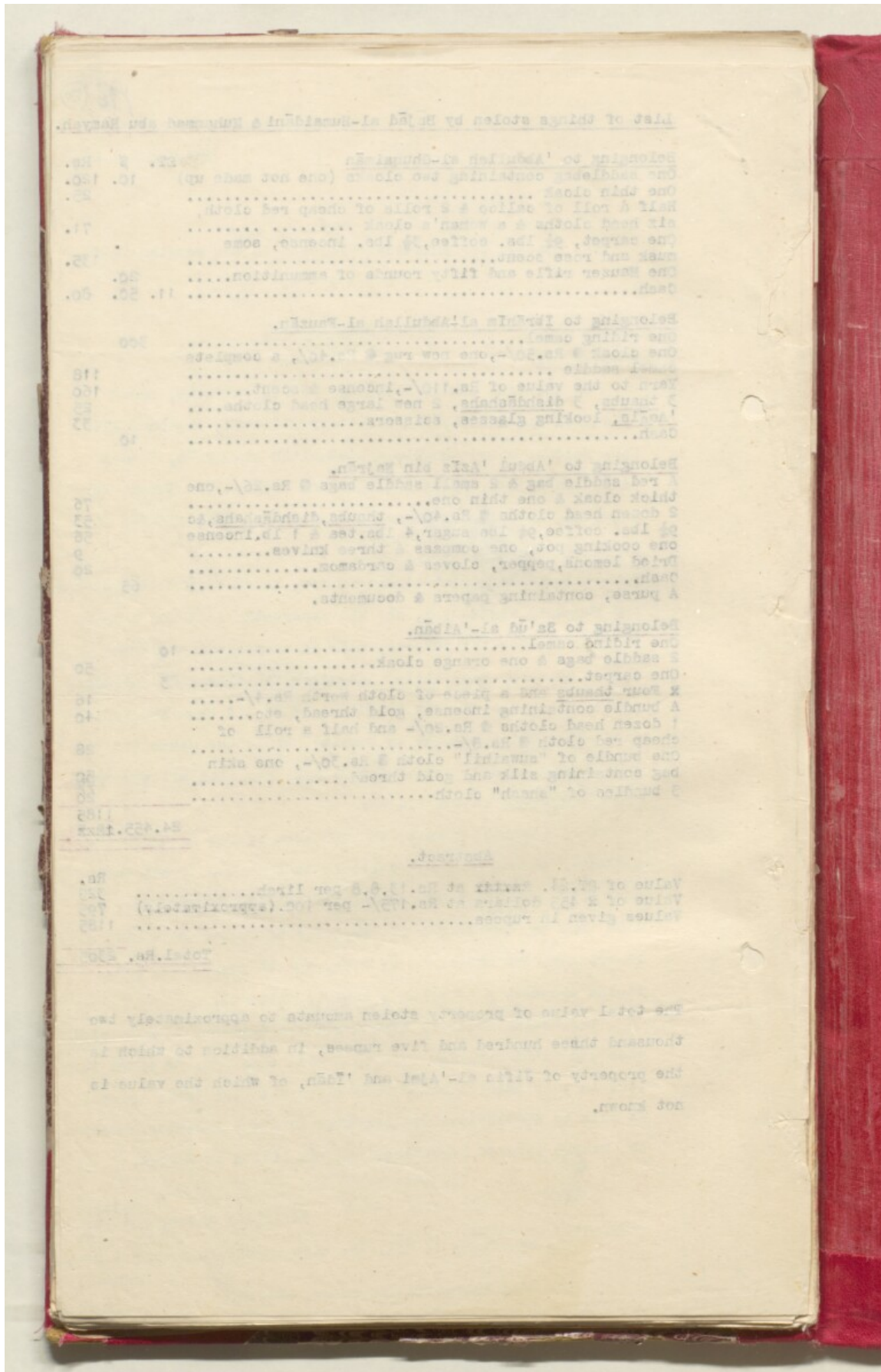
24.455.1185

Abstract.

Value of ET.24. xxxx at Rs.13.8.8 per liras	Rs.
Value of x 455 dollars at Rs.175/- per 100. (approximately)	325
Values given in rupees	795
	1185

Total, Rs. 2305

The total value of property stolen amounts to approximately two thousand three hundred and five rupees, in addition to which is the property of Jifin al-'Ajmi and 'Idān, of which the value is not known.





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL. 177 (17)

No. 105-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
30th April 1925.

Reg. No. 457
Date 6.5.25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

S.L. "Mishrif"

MEMORANDUM.

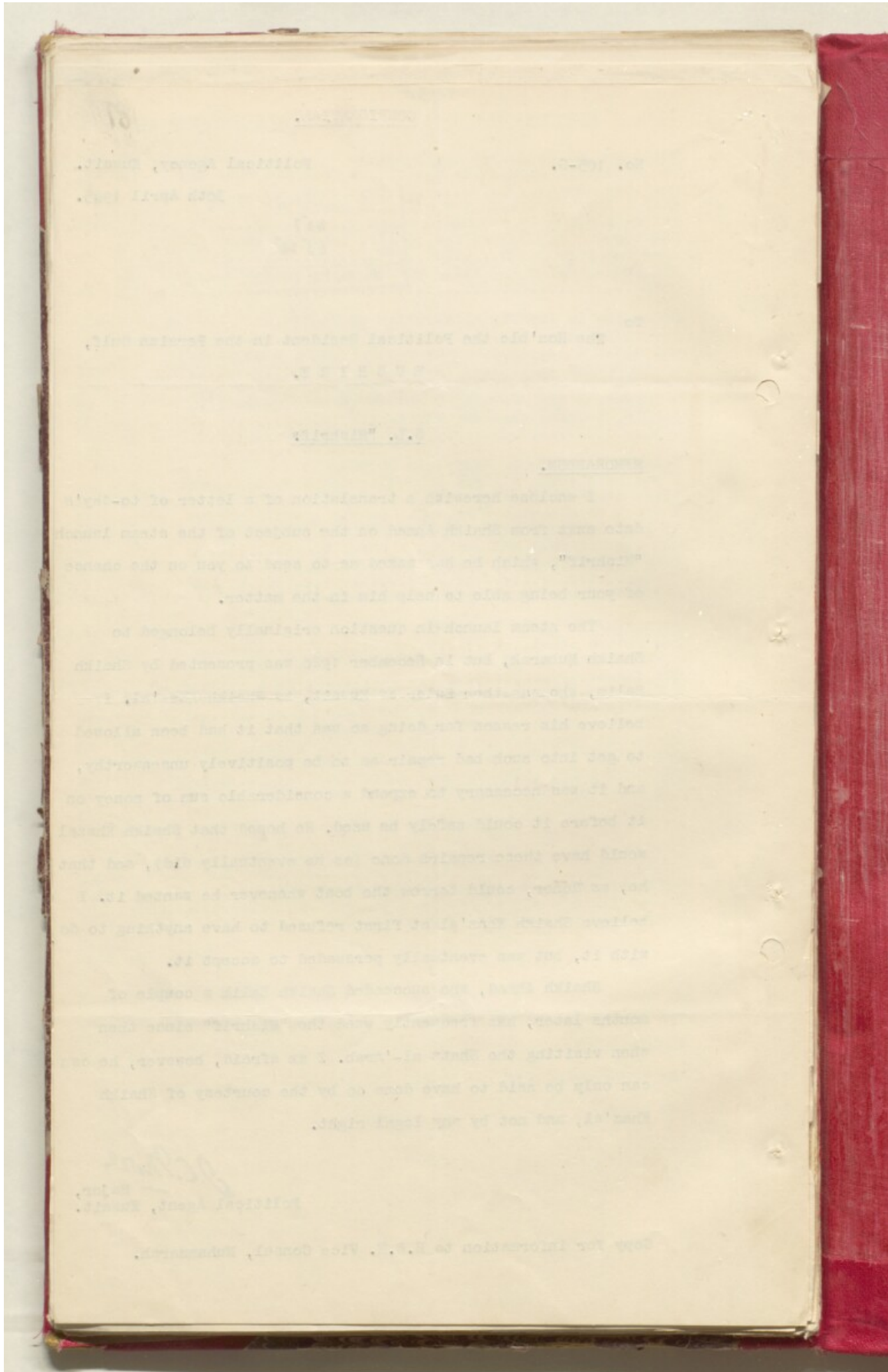
I enclose herewith a translation of a letter of to-day's date ~~xxx~~ from Shaikh Ahmad on the subject of the steam launch "Mishrif", which he has asked me to send to you on the chance of your being able to help him in the matter.

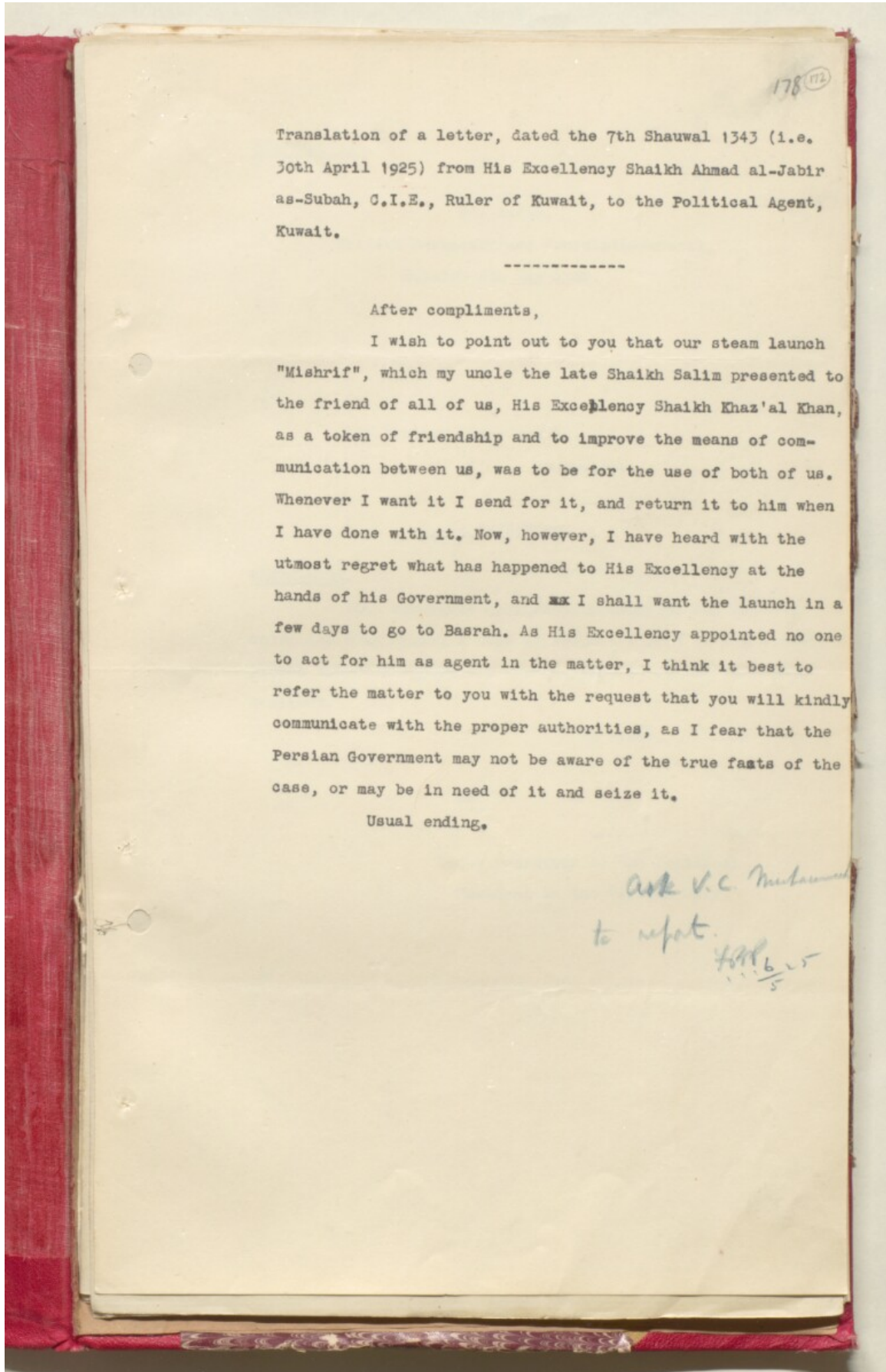
The steam launch in question originally belonged to Shaikh Mubarak, but in December 1920 was presented by Shaikh Salim, who was then Ruler of Kuwait, to Shaikh Khaz'al. I believe his reason for doing so was that it had been allowed to get into such bad repair as to be positively unseaworthy, and it was necessary to expend a considerable sum of money on it before it could safely be used. He hoped that Shaikh Khaz'al would have these repairs done (as he eventually did), and that he, as donor, could borrow the boat whenever he wanted it. I believe Shaikh Khaz'al at first refused to have anything to do with it, but was eventually persuaded to accept it.

Shaikh Ahmad, who succeeded Shaikh Salim a couple of months later, has frequently used the "Mishrif" since then when visiting the Shatt al-'Arab. I am afraid, however, he can only be said to have done so by the courtesy of Shaikh Khaz'al, and not by any legal right.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy for information to H.B.M. Vice Consul, Muhammarah.





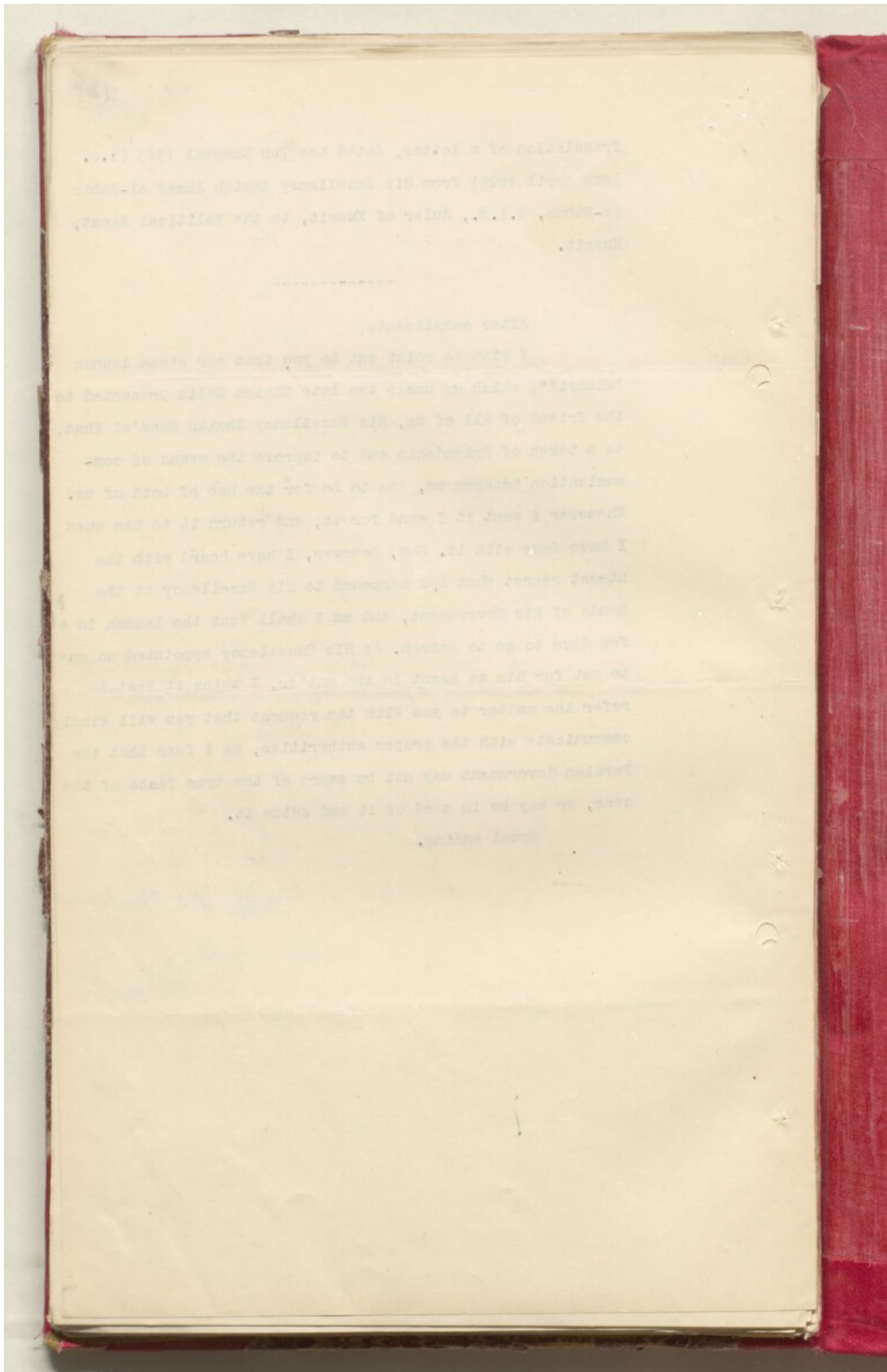
178
Translation of a letter, dated the 7th Shawwal 1343 (1.e. 30th April 1925) from His Excellency Shaikh Ahmad al-Jabir as-Subah, C.I.E., Ruler of Kuwait, to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

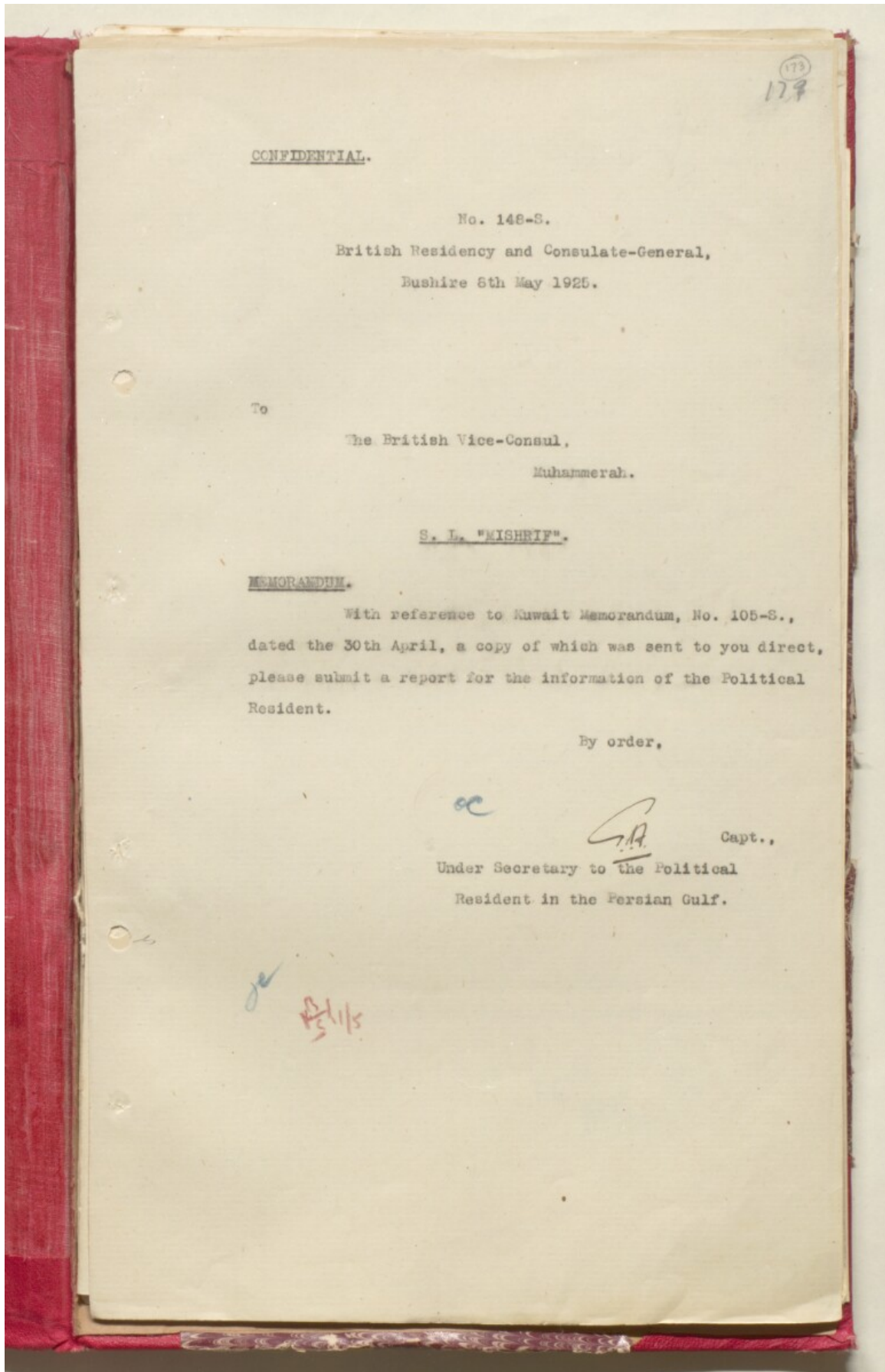
After compliments,

I wish to point out to you that our steam launch "Mishrif", which my uncle the late Shaikh Salim presented to the friend of all of us, His Excellency Shaikh Khaz'al Khan, as a token of friendship and to improve the means of communication between us, was to be for the use of both of us. Whenever I want it I send for it, and return it to him when I have done with it. Now, however, I have heard with the utmost regret what has happened to His Excellency at the hands of his Government, and ~~as~~ I shall want the launch in a few days to go to Basrah. As His Excellency appointed no one to act for him as agent in the matter, I think it best to refer the matter to you with the request that you will kindly communicate with the proper authorities, as I fear that the Persian Government may not be aware of the true facts of the case, or may be in need of it and seize it.

Usual ending.

Ark V.C. Muhammad
to refat.
4/11/25
S





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 148-S.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire 8th May 1925.

To

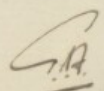
The British Vice-Consul,
Muhammerah.

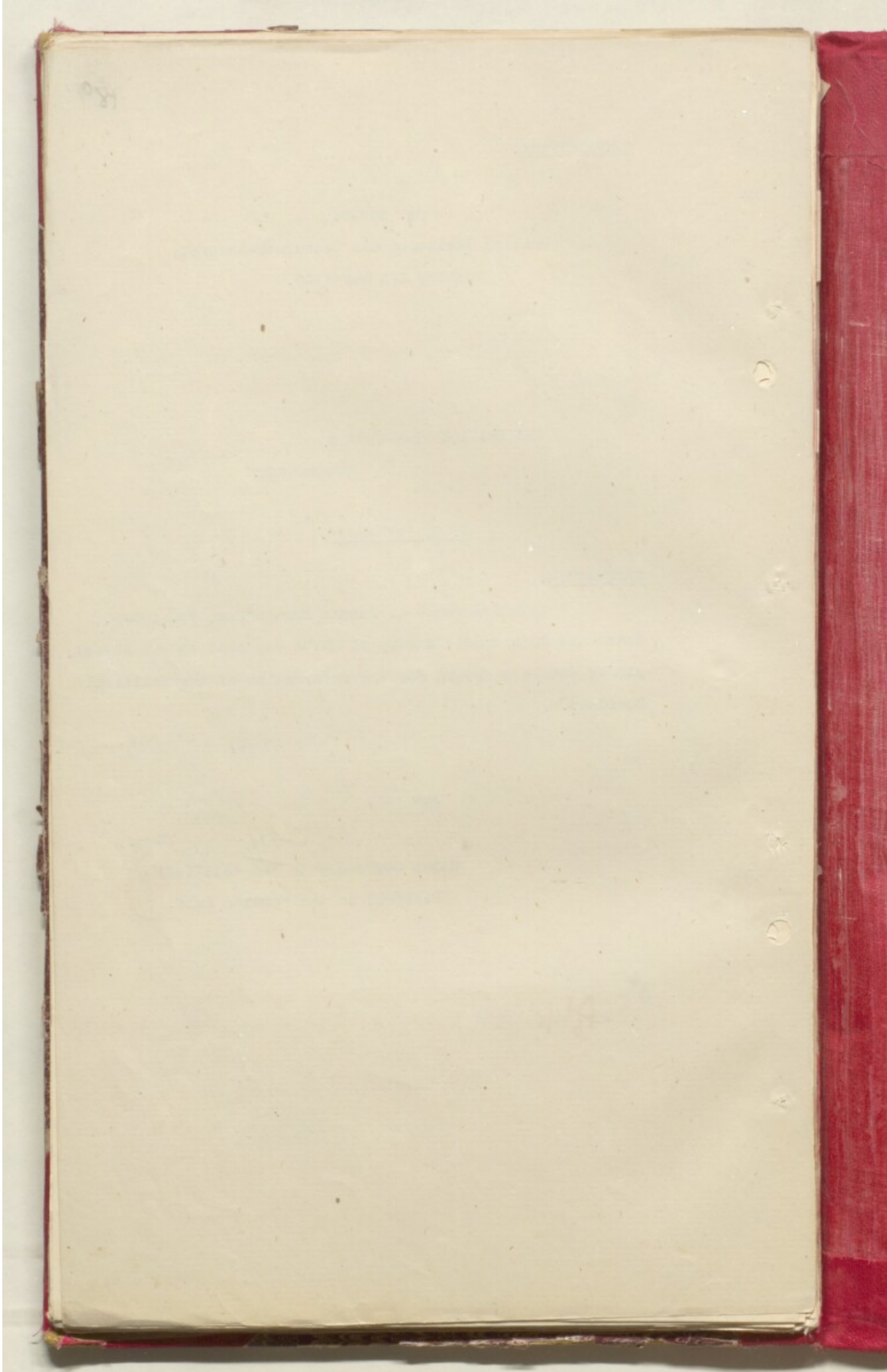
S. L. "MISHRIF".

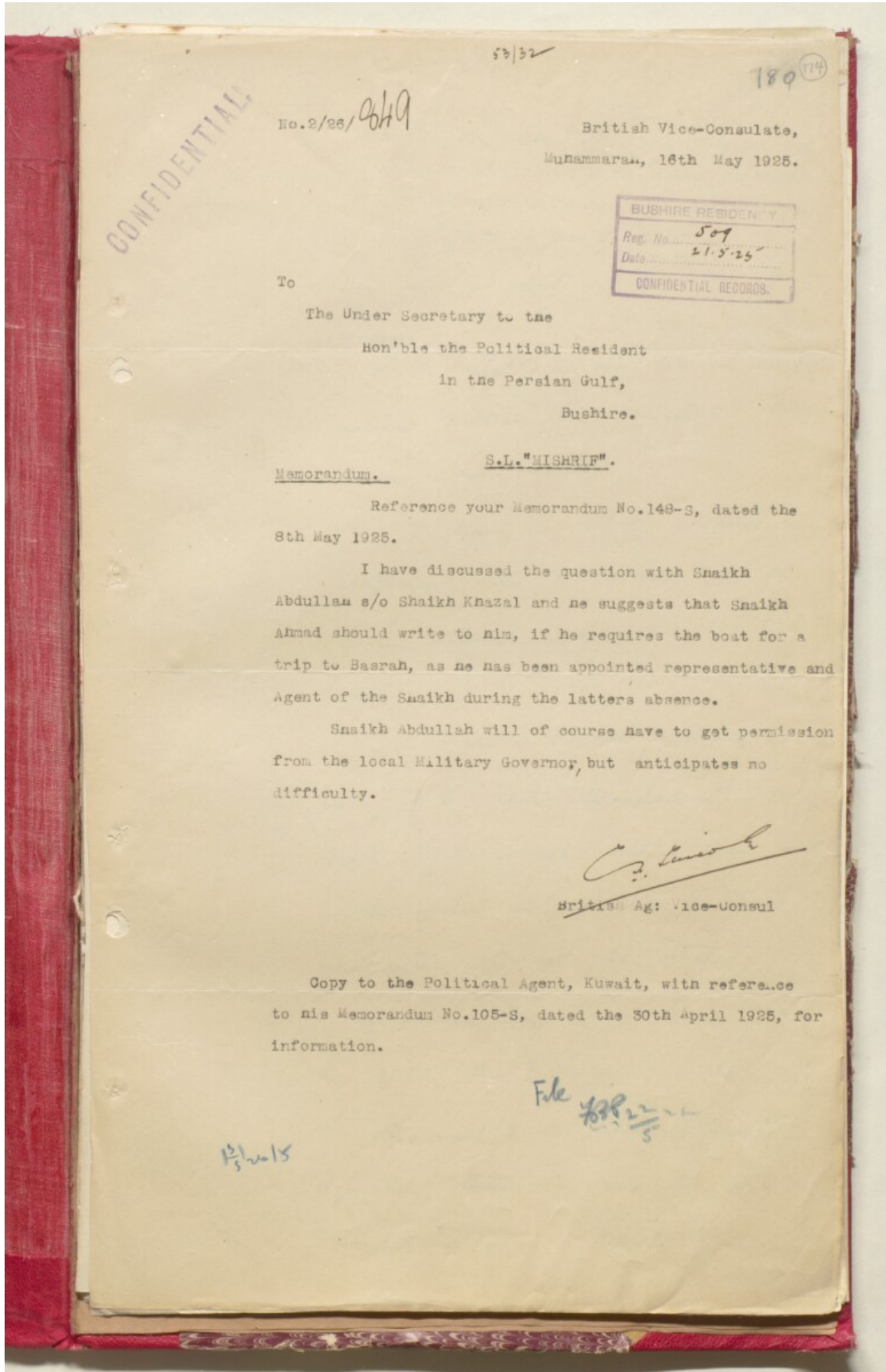
MEMORANDUM.

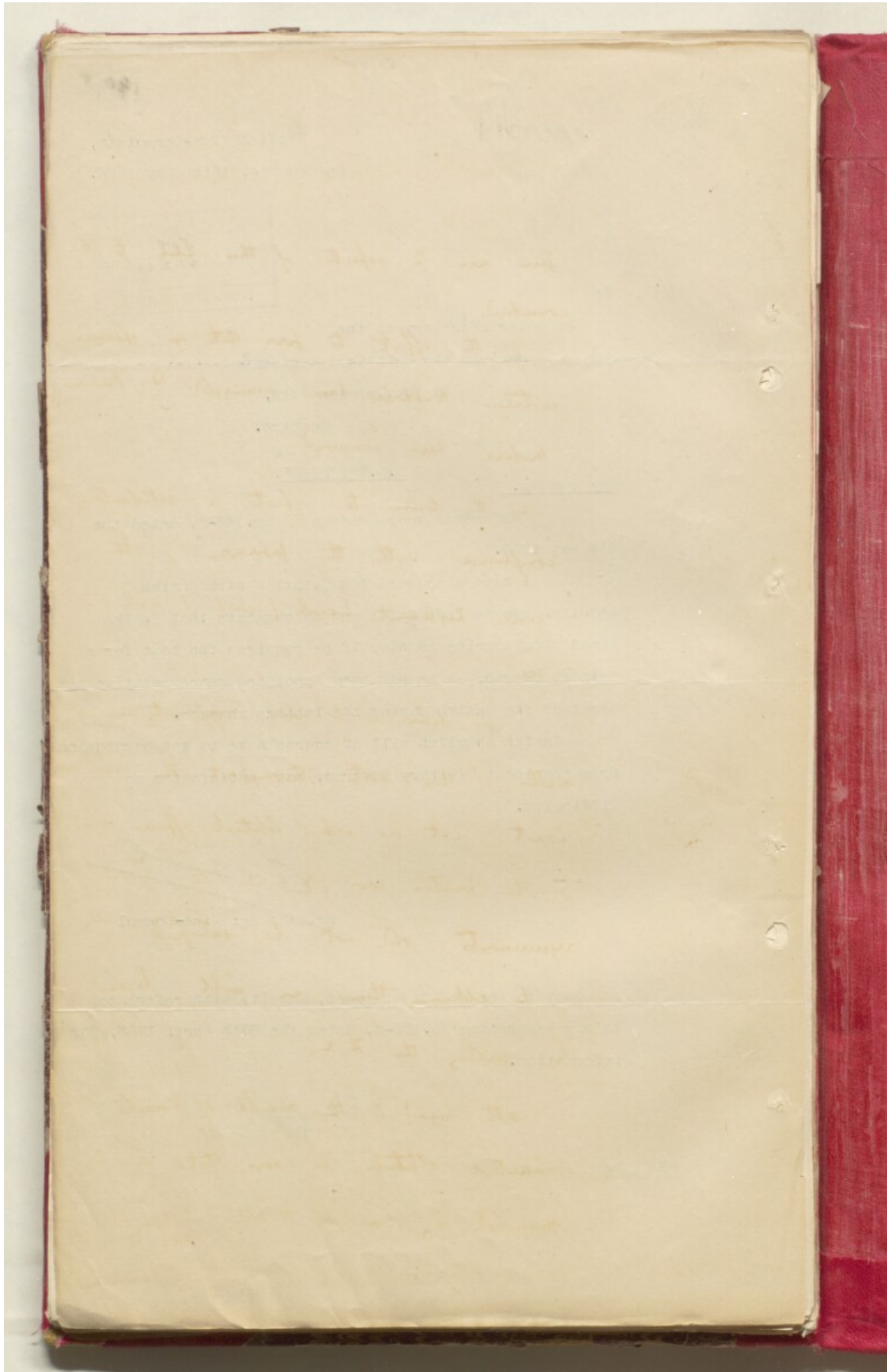
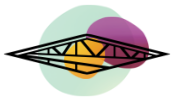
With reference to Kuwait Memorandum, No. 105-S.,
dated the 30th April, a copy of which was sent to you direct,
please submit a report for the information of the Political
Resident.

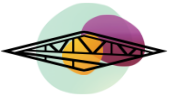
By order,


Capt.,
Under Secretary to the Political
Resident in the Persian Gulf.









Letter No. 474, dated 7th Tir 1304 (28-6-25) from
the Karguzar of the Gulf Ports, asking for copies
of certain manifests issued by the Kuwait Customs.

(Filed at p. 59, Town file 36/82).

There are 2 aspects of this case to be
considered

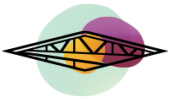
(1) the effort to prove that in specific
instances Nakhlodas have smuggled & Persian
Merchies have connived

(2) the desire to effect a satisfactory
compliance with the provisions of the
Persian Reglement Legal (which I wish to
see.

our desire is to see conformity in a
matter of this sort throughout the Arab
Coast. Let us ask Political Officers what
is the practice now & why the Persian
requirements are not be satisfied.

In addressing them we will begin
by quoting the R.L.

With regard to the Shaikh of Kuwait's
obstructive attitude, he says that one
manifest is given to Nakhlodas. Am I



to understand that no office copy is kept?
 If it is, to refuse a duplicate is possible.
 If it is not, to issue a Manifest, which
 he knows that the boat generally goes to
 another port or ports than those named,
 is useless.

If the Persian authorities are not helped,
 they can of course make all sorts of
 difficulties such as punishing vessels for arriving
 from unaccommodating ports, & in that state
 will be worse than our first.

Bahrain apparently was discouraged for
 helping by Colonel Trevor!

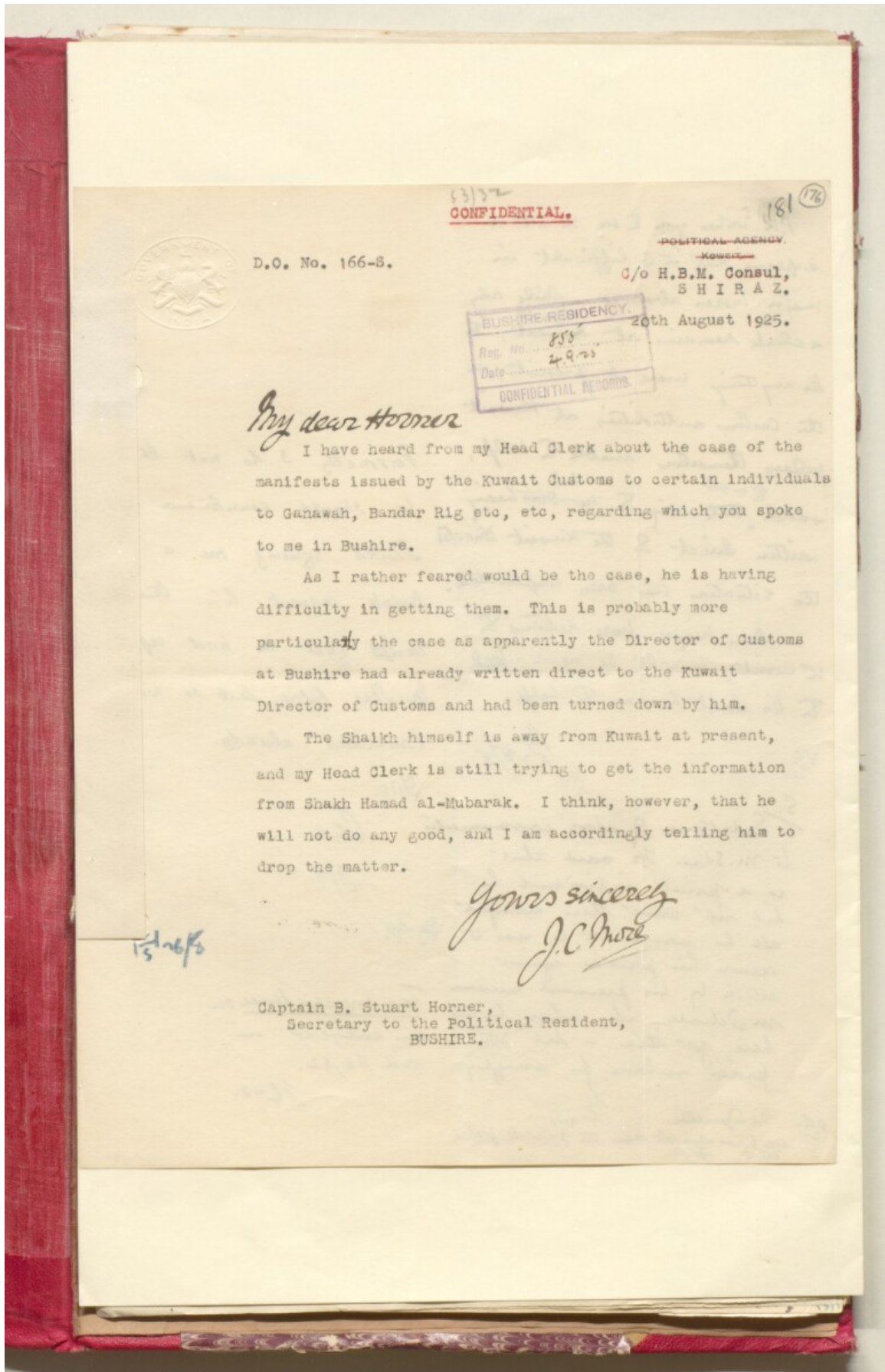
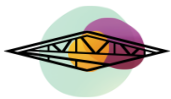
Let us see what Muscat does or
 is prepared to do, & then we will ask
 the other States to conform.

4/11/20/21
 Please add copy of Règlement legal + draft of
 P.A. Muscat, on lines indicated at A+B of PR's
 with dated 27/1/25. 12/1/25

cc.

Règlement legal and draft put up.

Draft to P.A. Muscat submitted. Please also see 4/11/20/21.
 see Art. 43 of the Règlement legal. - Also Major Wares' 5/10
 letter to me, just received. 15/6/25
 P.R.





P.R. writes you & see Mr. Star & explain that it is difficult in Major Moore's absence, while only a clerk remains at Kuwait, to do anything more at present, as the Customs authorities at Kuwait prefer themselves unable to help, & add that only ^{his} ~~the~~ ^{Star} ~~Star~~ ^{has} ~~Star~~ ^{been} ~~Star~~ ^{written} ~~Star~~ ^{direct} ~~Star~~ ^{to} ~~Star~~ ^{the} ~~Star~~ ^{Kuwait} ~~Star~~ ^{Director} ~~Star~~ ^{the} ~~Star~~ ^{situation} ~~Star~~ ^{has} ~~Star~~ ^{been} ~~Star~~ ^{complicated}.

When Major Moore returns to Kuwait, he will be again asked to do what he can to help.

V.C.

1/2/5

Personally I do not think he should countenance the Shakh's refusing me a simple request like this, except that he had refused Mr. Star before, and so was committed already.

File.

S. Substance of above communicated to Mr. Star. He said that as a private individual, he did not want these matters all he wanted to do was to secure his position against attack by his presumed successor Mr. Delisle who when he was here got them - did 300 pieces various for smuggling.

Chl

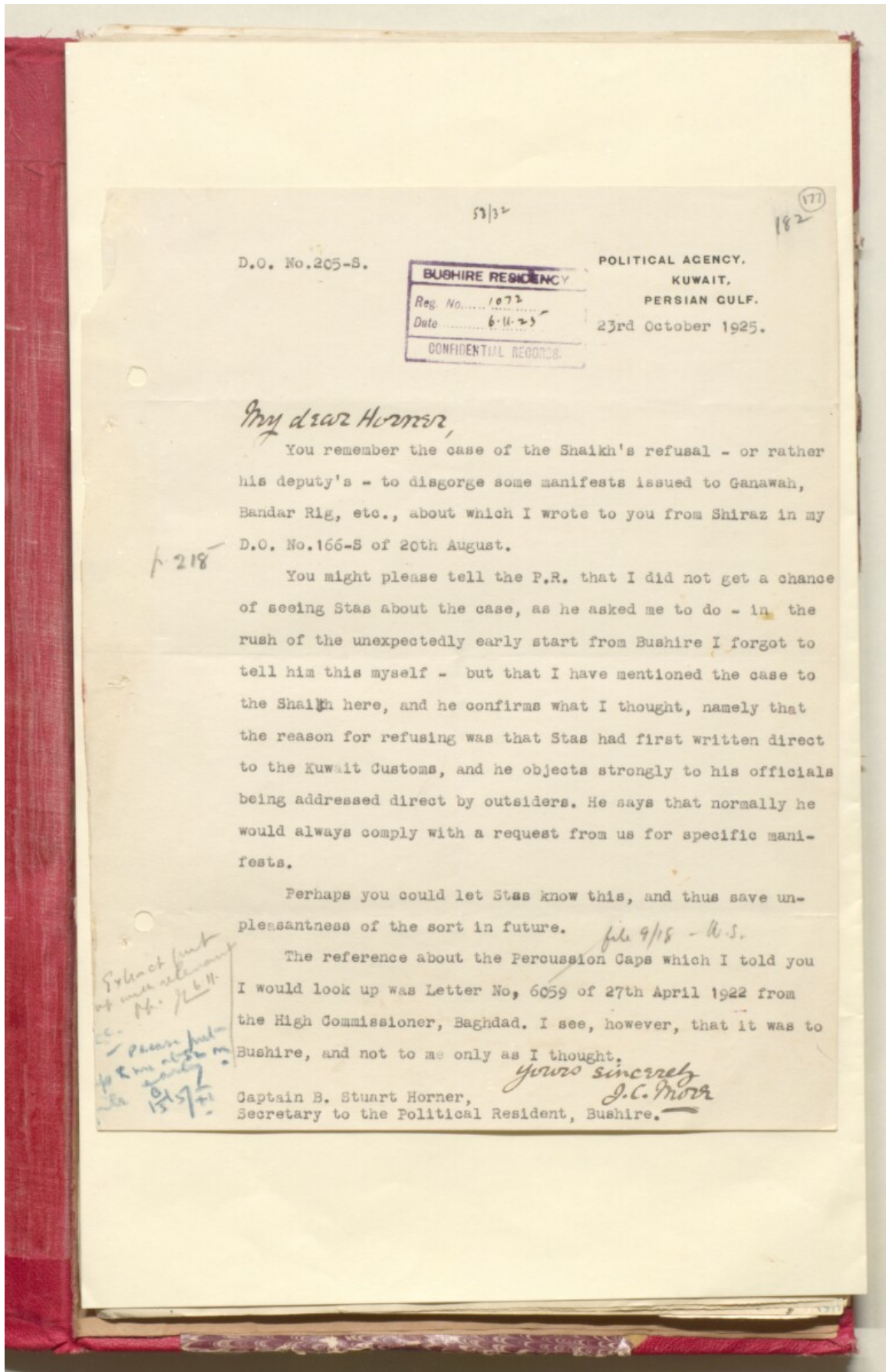
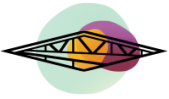
2/9.

9-49

Turn correspondence on his subject in file 36/82.

9C49.

P.R. For information. You have also not seen the second paper below. 1/1/5



D.O. No.205-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY	
Reg. No.	1072
Date	6-10-25
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.
23rd October 1925.

My dear Horner,

You remember the case of the Shaikh's refusal - or rather his deputy's - to discharge some manifests issued to Ganawah, Bandar Rig, etc., about which I wrote to you from Shiraz in my D.O. No.166-S of 20th August.

You might please tell the P.R. that I did not get a chance of seeing Stas about the case, as he asked me to do - in the rush of the unexpectedly early start from Bushire I forgot to tell him this myself - but that I have mentioned the case to the Shaikh here, and he confirms what I thought, namely that the reason for refusing was that Stas had first written direct to the Kuwait Customs, and he objects strongly to his officials being addressed direct by outsiders. He says that normally he would always comply with a request from us for specific manifests.

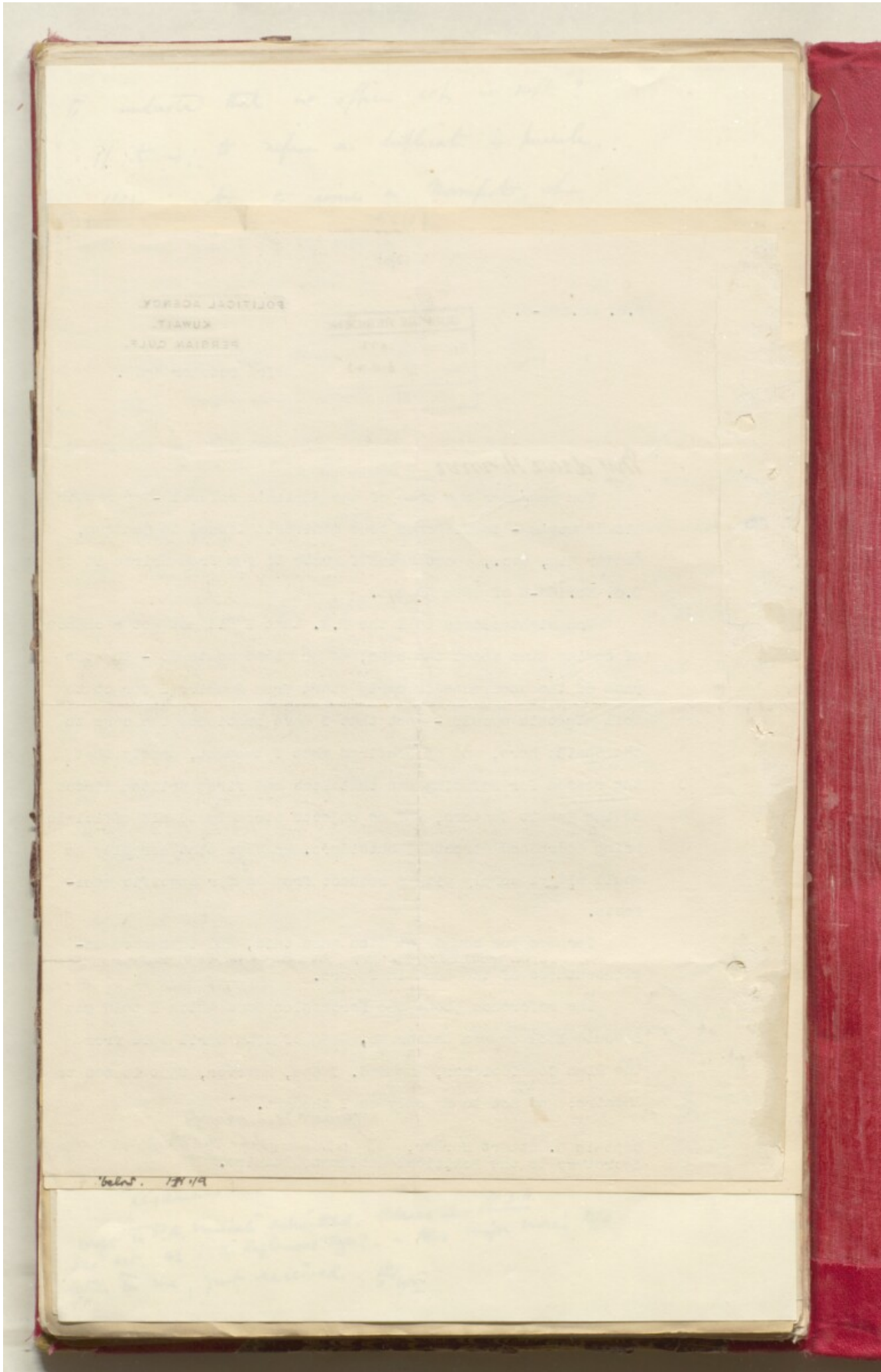
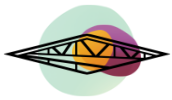
Perhaps you could let Stas know this, and thus save unpleasantness of the sort in future.

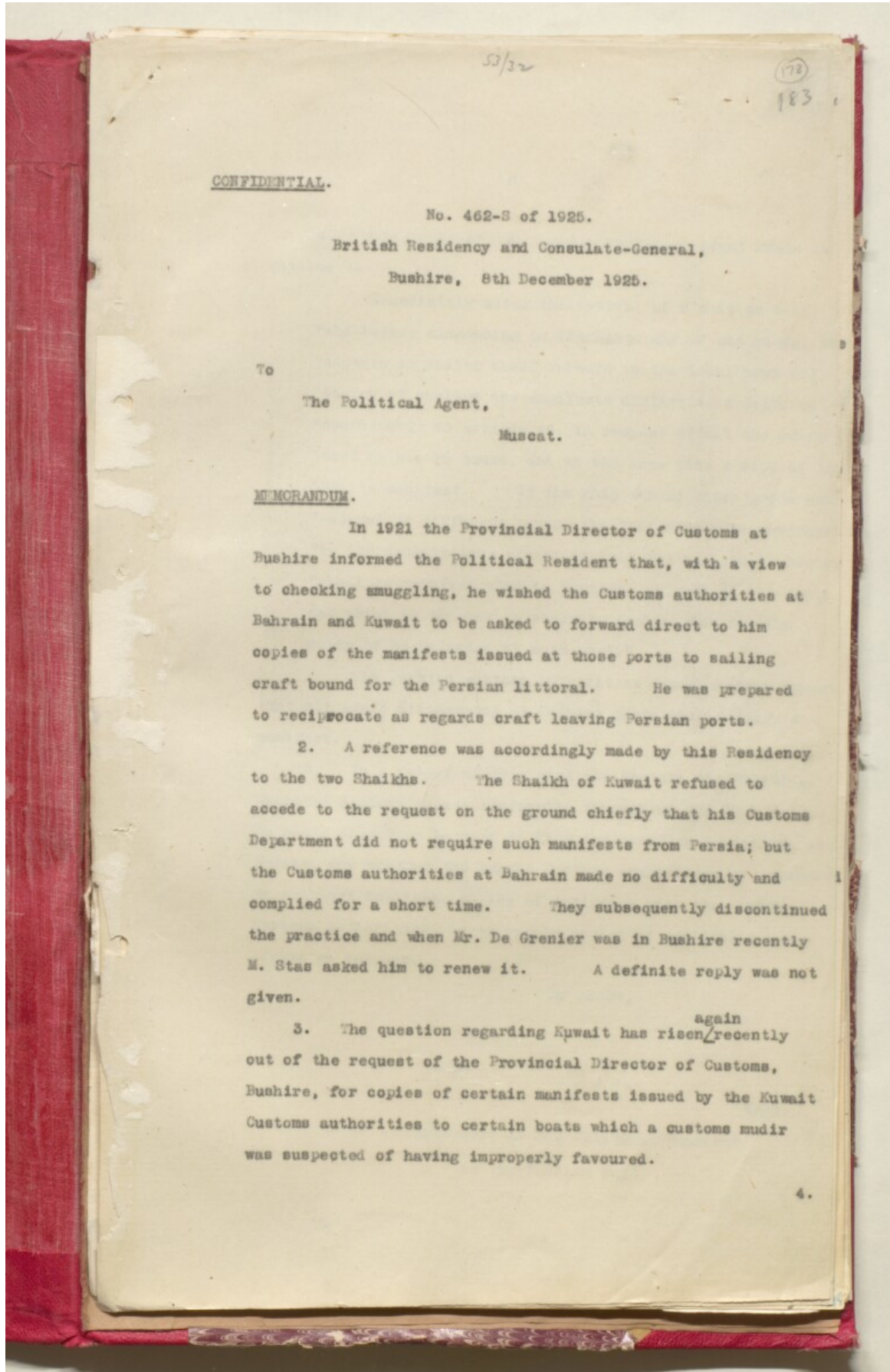
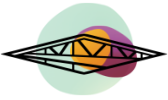
The reference about the Percussion Caps which I told you I would look up was Letter No, 6059 of 27th April 1922 from the High Commissioner, Baghdad. I see, however, that it was to Bushire, and not to me only as I thought.

Captain B. Stuart Horner,
Secretary to the Political Resident, Bushire.

yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

*Select first
not under reference
No. 1264.
- please
to R. H. H. H. H.
15/7/25*





CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 462-S of 1925.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 8th December 1925.

To

The Political Agent,

Muscat.

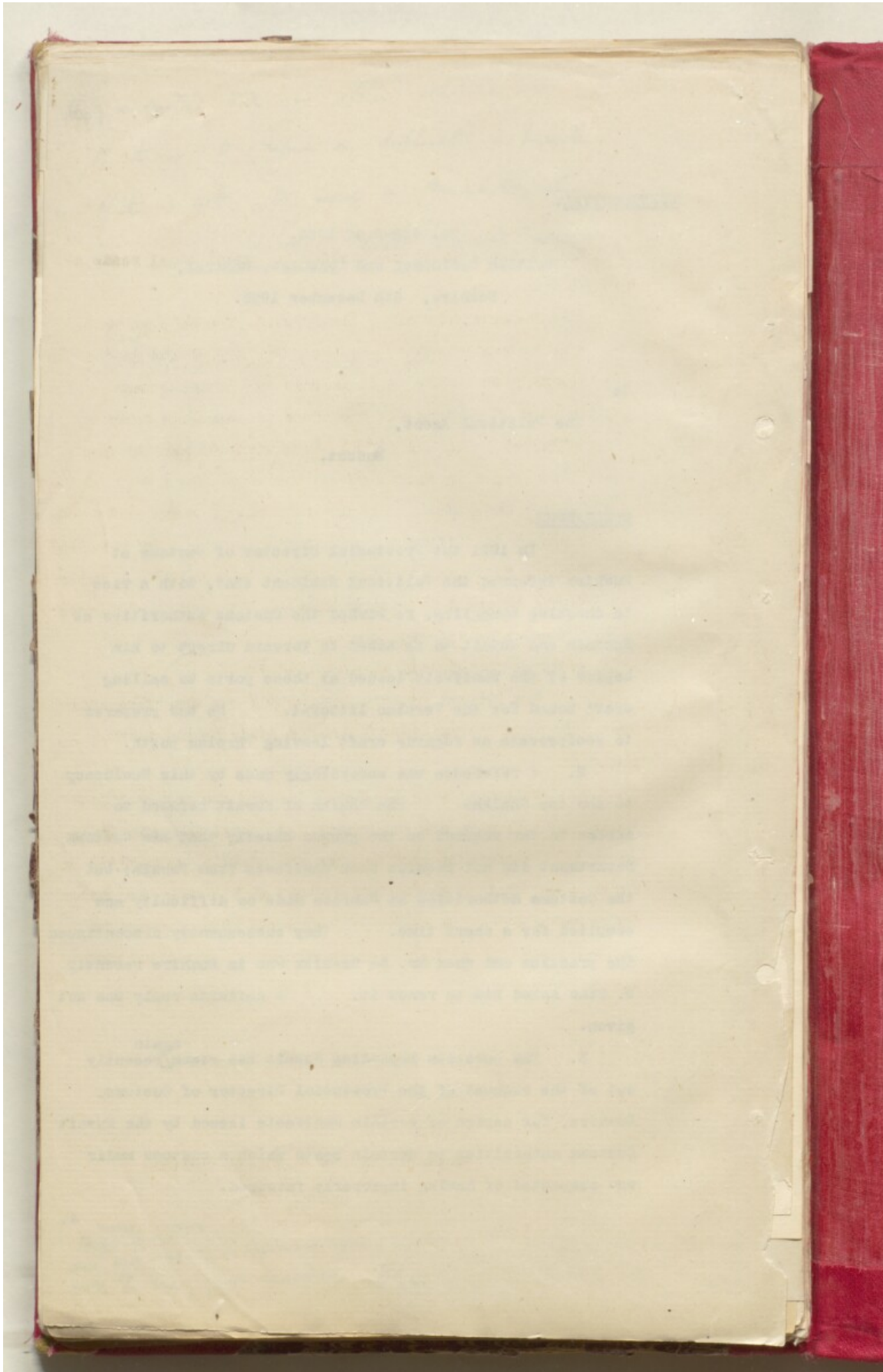
MEMORANDUM.

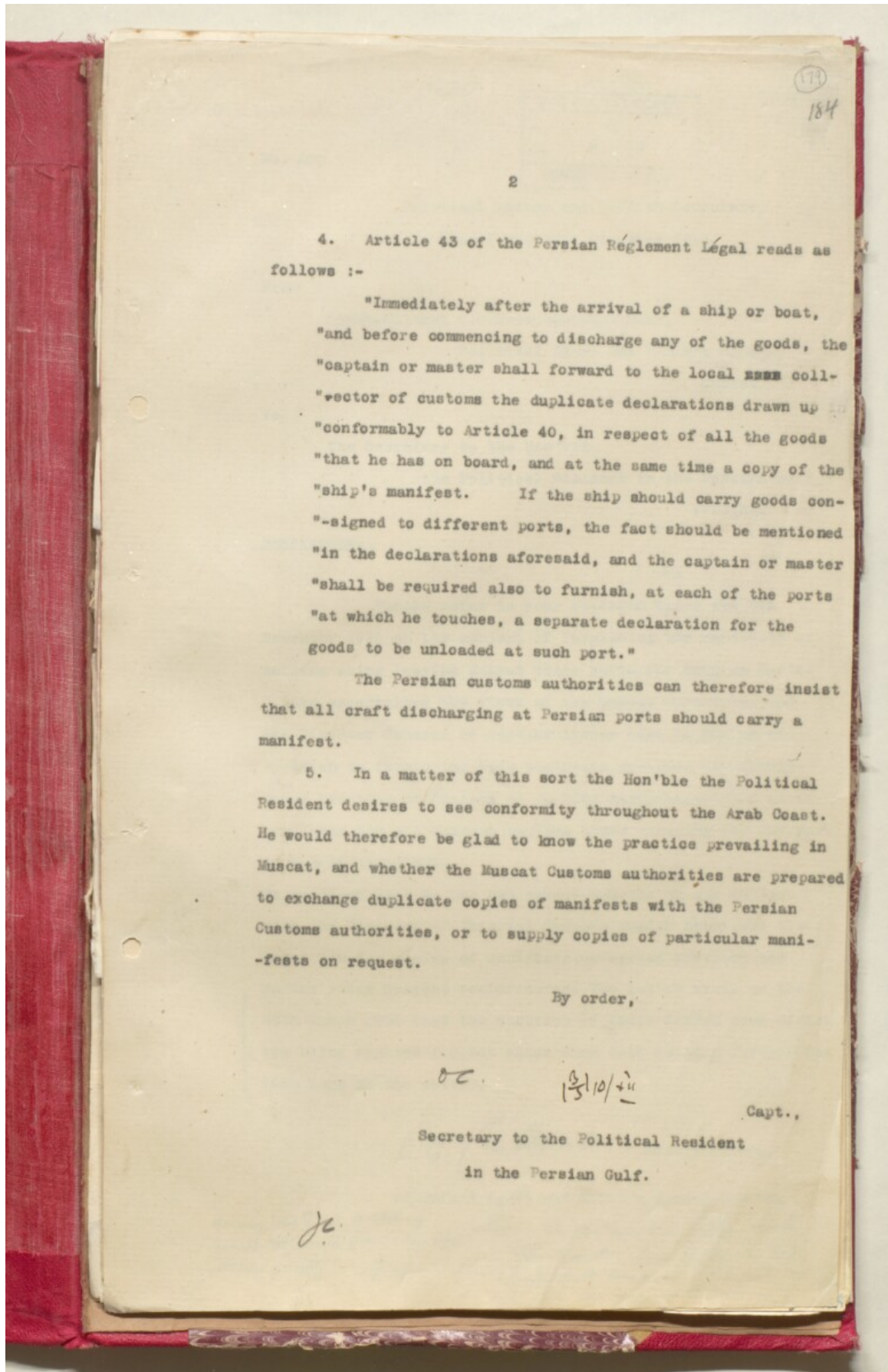
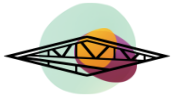
In 1921 the Provincial Director of Customs at Bushire informed the Political Resident that, with a view to checking smuggling, he wished the Customs authorities at Bahrain and Kuwait to be asked to forward direct to him copies of the manifests issued at those ports to sailing craft bound for the Persian littoral. He was prepared to reciprocate as regards craft leaving Persian ports.

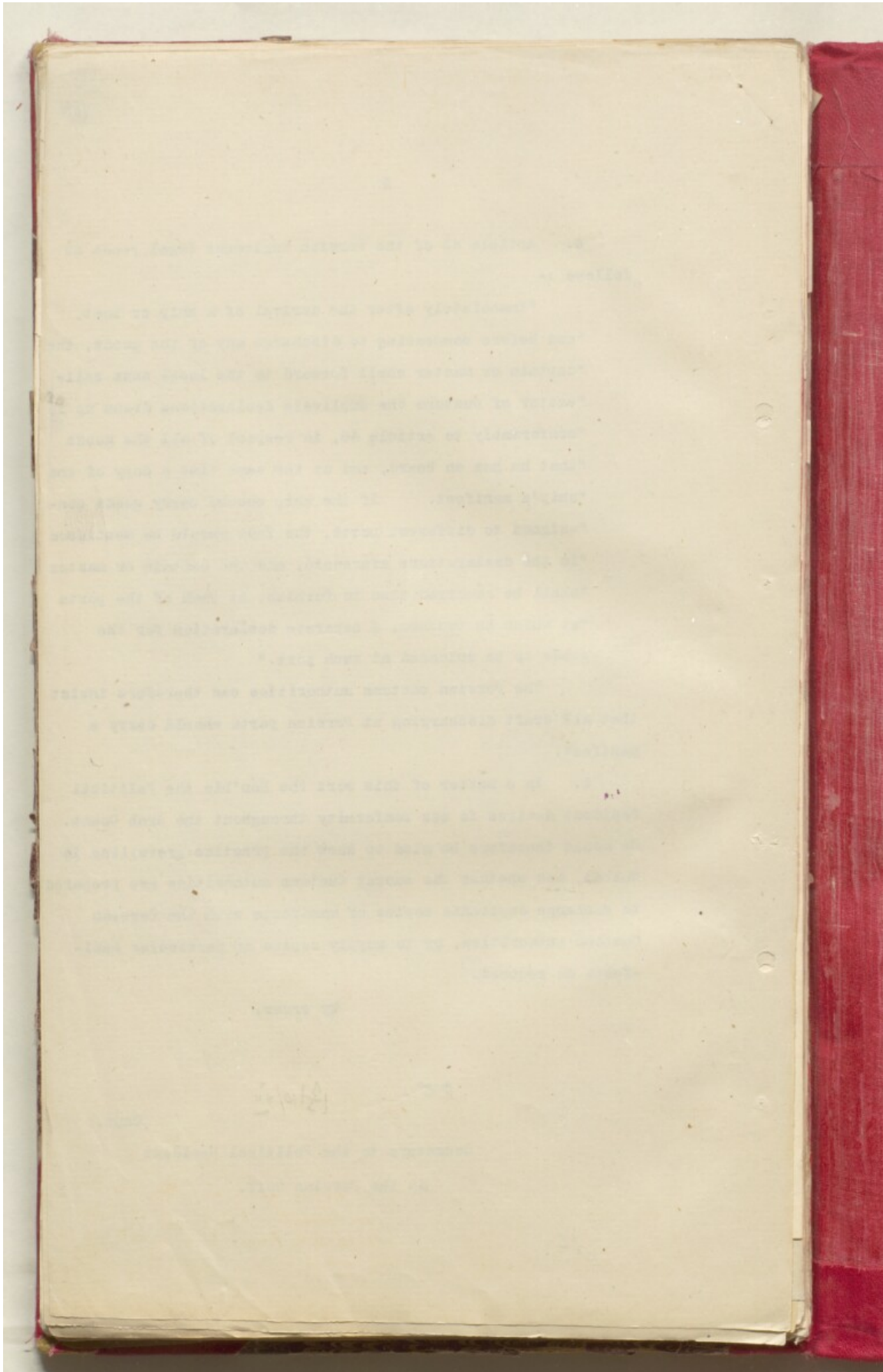
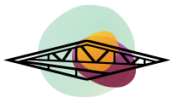
2. A reference was accordingly made by this Residency to the two Shaikhs. The Shaikh of Kuwait refused to accede to the request on the ground chiefly that his Customs Department did not require such manifests from Persia; but the Customs authorities at Bahrain made no difficulty and complied for a short time. They subsequently discontinued the practice and when Mr. De Grenier was in Bushire recently M. Stas asked him to renew it. A definite reply was not given.

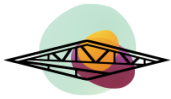
3. The question regarding Kuwait has risen ^{again} recently out of the request of the Provincial Director of Customs, Bushire, for copies of certain manifests issued by the Kuwait Customs authorities to certain boats which a customs mudir was suspected of having improperly favoured.

4.









Confidential.

No. 100

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 9
Date 8.1.26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORD

Political Agency and British Consulate,
Muscat the 26th December 1925.

From
Lieut. Colonel C.G. Crosthwaite, C.B.E.,
Political Agent and H.B.M.'s Consul,
Muscat,

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble
the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
BUSHIRE.

Memorandum.

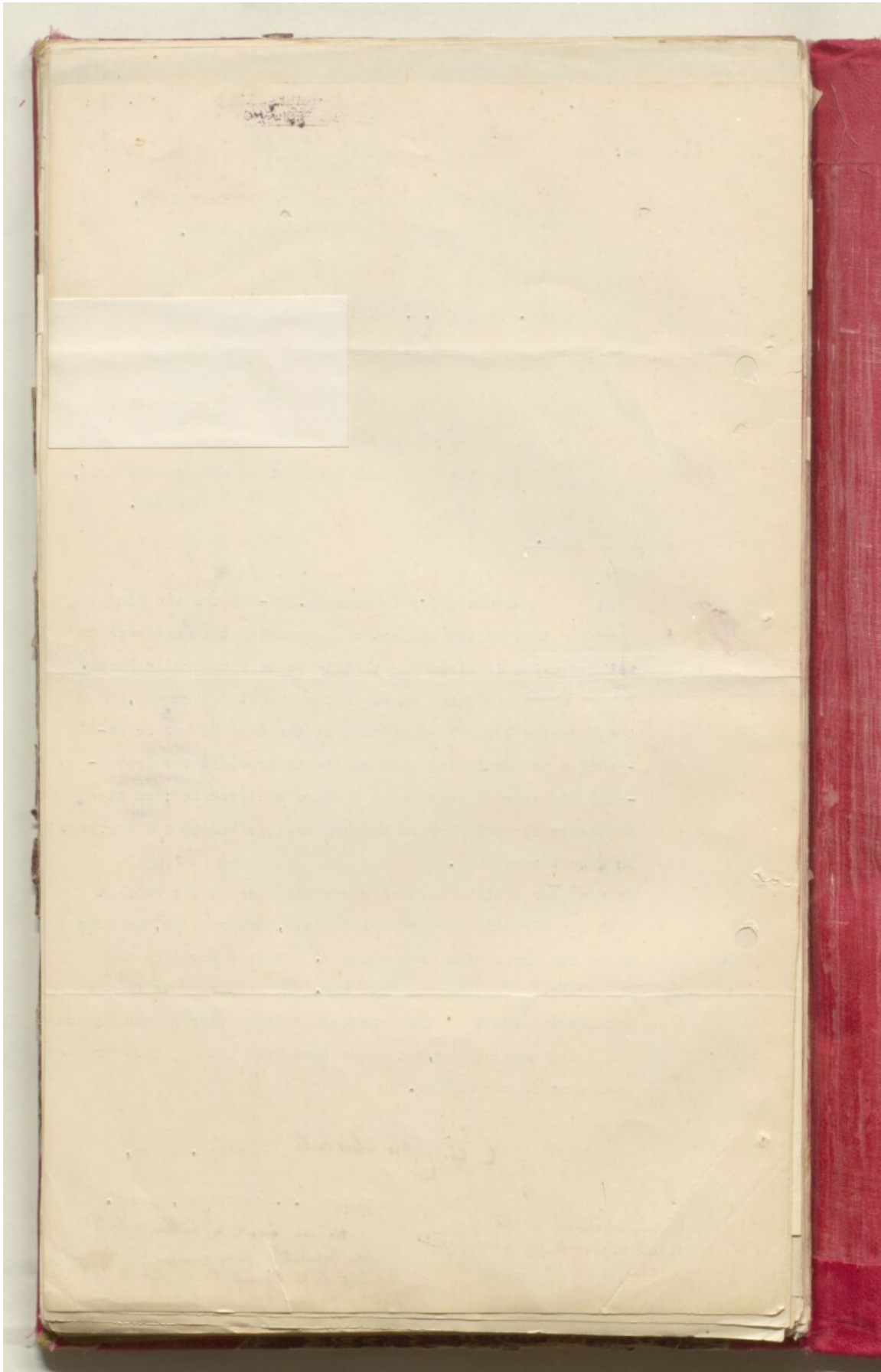
1183

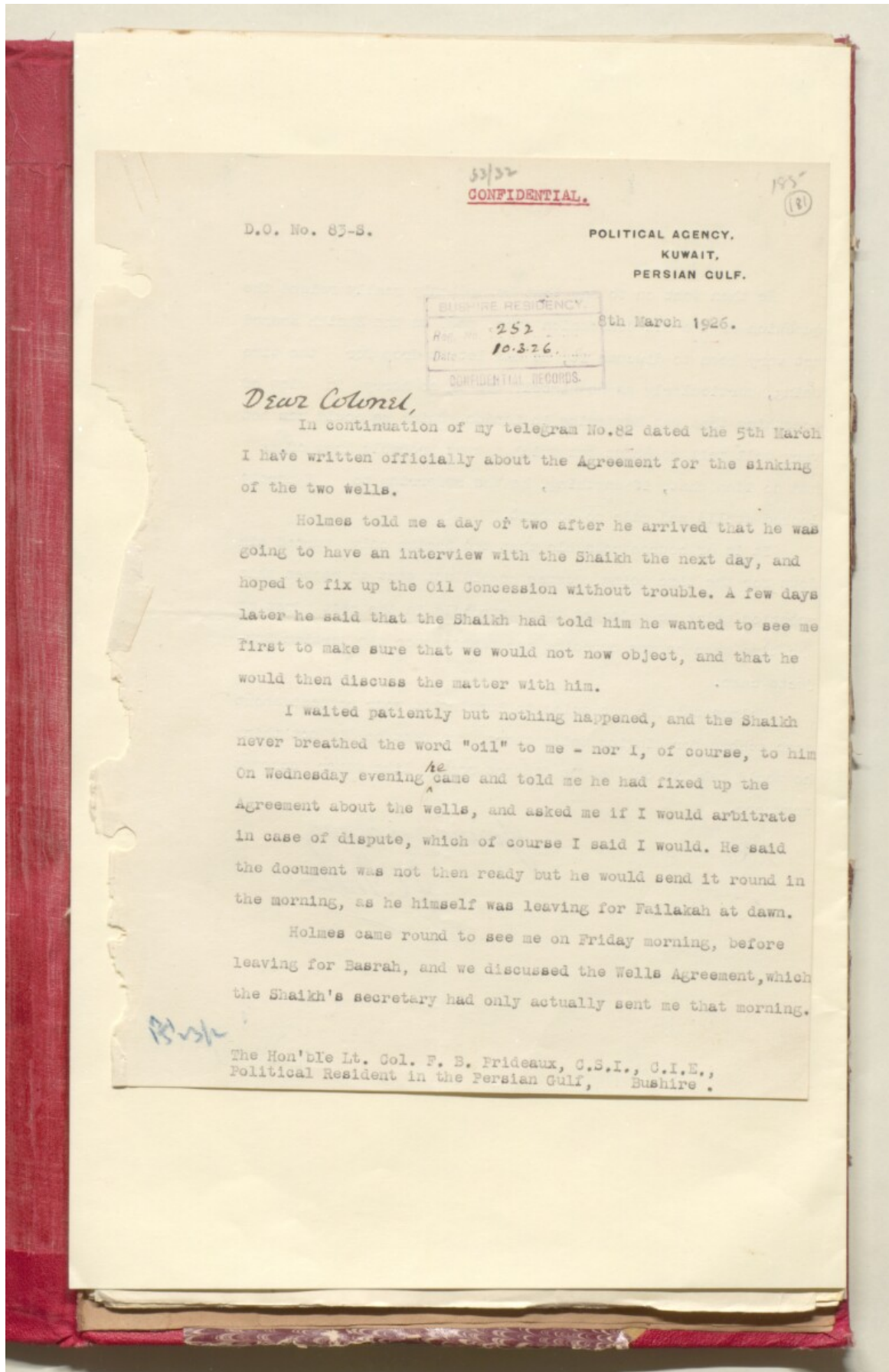
Please refer to your No. 462-S dated the 8th December 1925 on the subject of furnishing the manifests of sailing ships leaving Muscat State ports for Persian Ports. I have ascertained the views of the Muscat Government, and the Director General of Customs states that he has no objection to furnishing such manifests provided the Provincial Director of Customs at Bushire reciprocates, and gives manifests for all Persian sailing boats clearing for any port in Muscat territory.

He mentions that he has had correspondence on the subject with the Director of Imperial Customs, Bunder Abbas, who also asked him for copies of manifests. He agreed provided the Bunder Abbas Customs reciprocated. The latter wrote on the 25th March 1924 that the sanction of their Tehran Head Office was being applied for, but since that date nothing further has been done in the matter.

C.G. Crosthwaite
Lieut. Colonel,
Political Agent and H.B.M.'s Consul, Muscat.

Handwritten notes:
You may wish to ask M. S. if he will reciprocate generally before settling finally? 13/1/26
We can await a further report from Muscat. he is of opinion it is very difficult for the Persian to reciprocate, as boats come from many small ports. 7/1/26





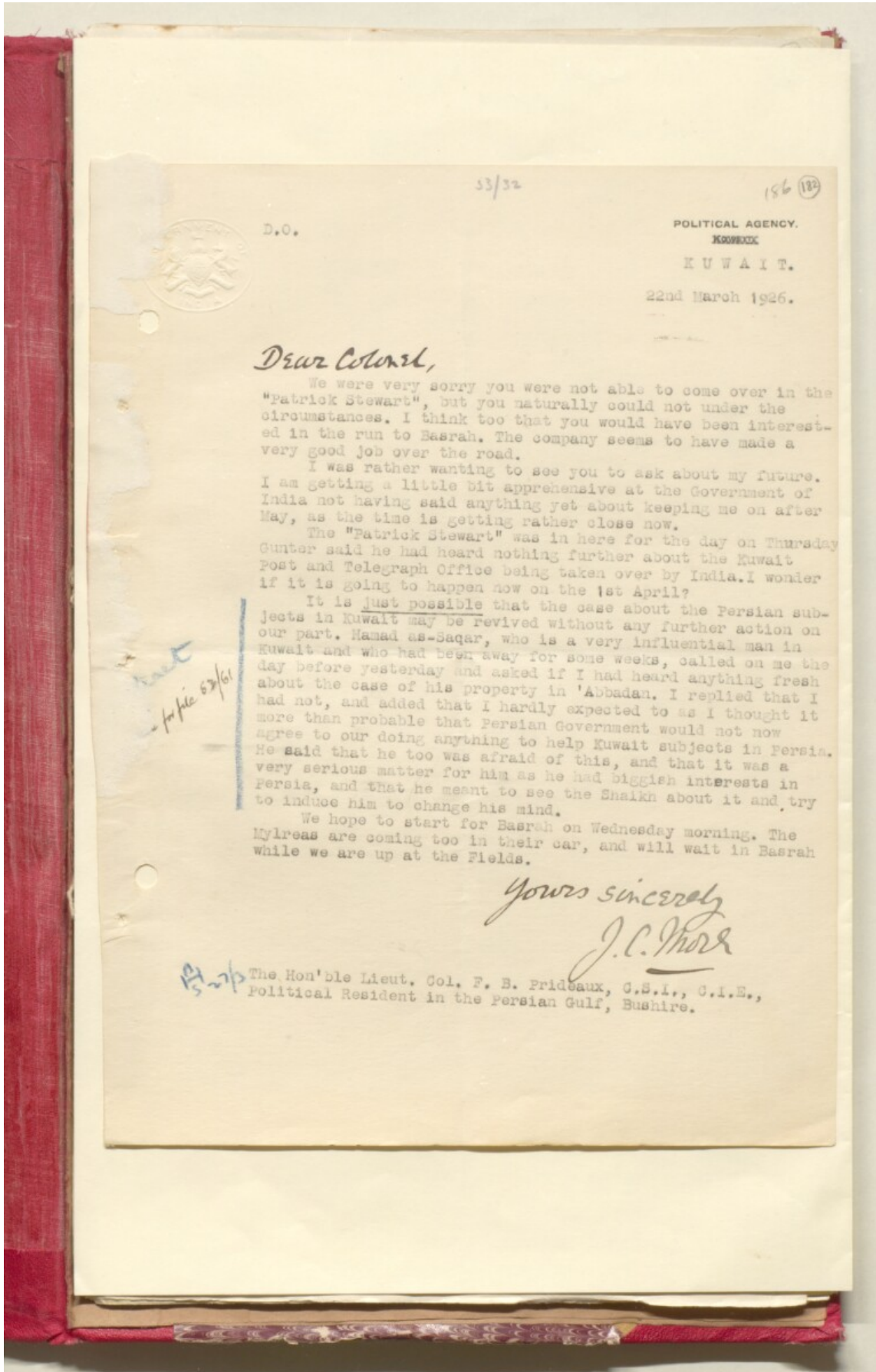


He then went on to say that he had only really raised the question of the Oil Concession once, and, as the Shaikh seemed not very keen to discuss it, he had let it drop for the time being, particularly as he himself was in no hurry in view of something that was happening in London, which he could not very well tell me about but which I very probably knew of. As I had no idea what, if anything, he was referring to, I merely looked stolid and made no comment.

It is of course possible that the Shaikh only turned him down for the time being, because he did not want to reopen this question which we objected to so strongly in the past just at the time when he was opposing our wishes over the Persian Subjects case.

Holmes said he was going to Bushire at your request about some scheme for sinking wells there, but that he did not think he would take it on, as he did not really like water schemes anywhere.

*Yours sincerely
J.C. More*



53/32

186 (122)

D.O.

POLITICAL AGENCY.

KUWAIT.

K U W A I T.

22nd March 1926.

Dear Colonel,

We were very sorry you were not able to come over in the "Patrick Stewart", but you naturally could not under the circumstances. I think too that you would have been interested in the run to Basrah. The company seems to have made a very good job over the road.

I was rather wanting to see you to ask about my future. I am getting a little bit apprehensive at the Government of India not having said anything yet about keeping me on after May, as the time is getting rather close now.

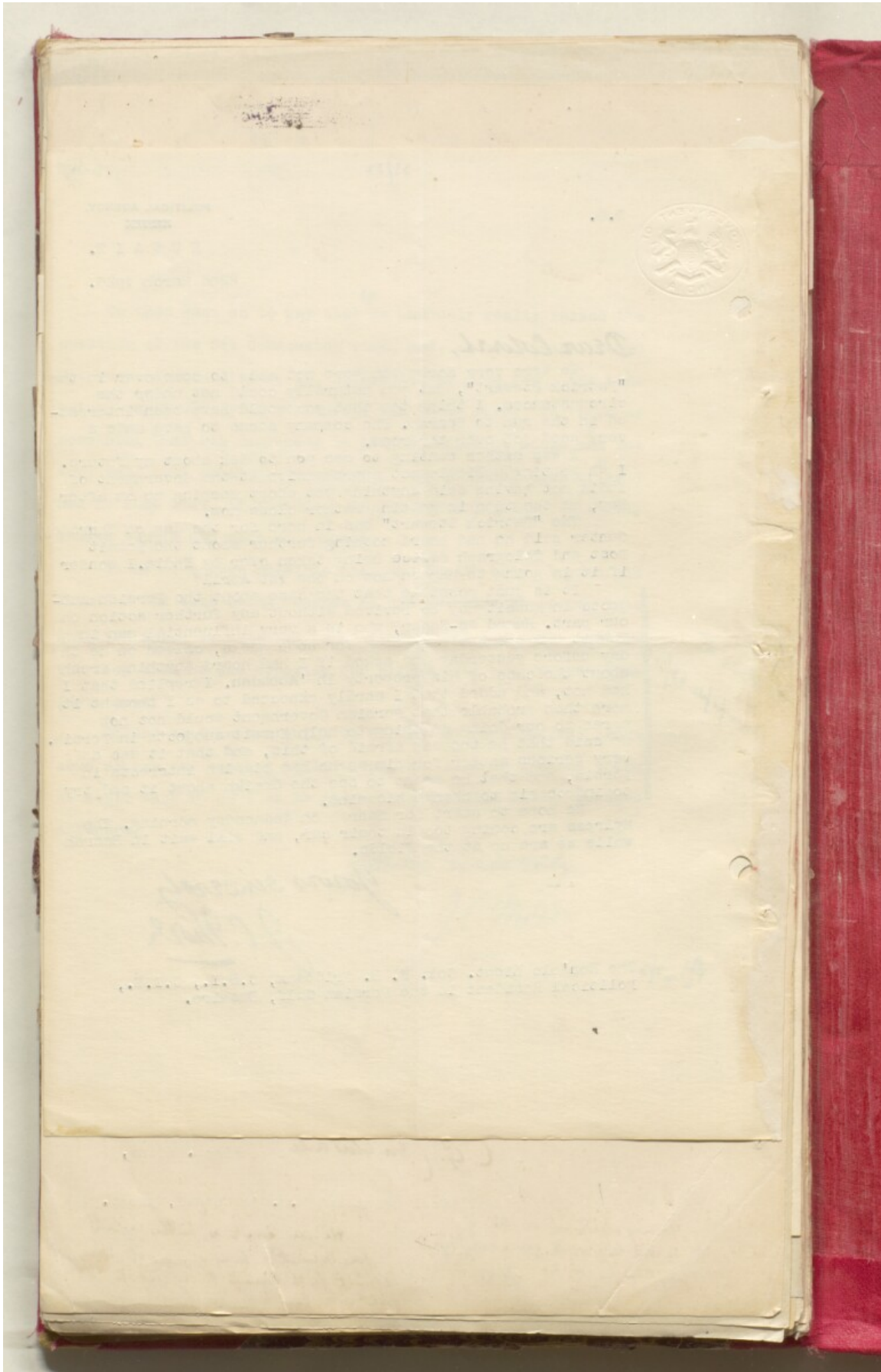
The "Patrick Stewart" was in here for the day on Thursday. Gunter said he had heard nothing further about the Kuwait Post and Telegraph Office being taken over by India. I wonder if it is going to happen now on the 1st April?

It is just possible that the case about the Persian subjects in Kuwait may be revived without any further action on our part. Mamad as-Saqar, who is a very influential man in Kuwait and who had been away for some weeks, called on me the day before yesterday and asked if I had heard anything fresh about the case of his property in 'Abbadan. I replied that I had not, and added that I hardly expected to as I thought it more than probable that Persian Government would not now agree to our doing anything to help Kuwait subjects in Persia. He said that he too was afraid of this, and that it was a very serious matter for him as he had biggish interests in Persia, and that he meant to see the Shaikh about it and try to induce him to change his mind.

We hope to start for Basrah on Wednesday morning. The Mylreas are coming too in their car, and will wait in Basrah while we are up at the Fields.

Yours sincerely
J.C. Moore

The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.





53/32 (183) 197

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 160-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
10th July 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.

Reg. No. 669/13
Date 14/7/26.

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

Desert News.

MEMORANDUM.

On the 5th July about seventy five Kuwait camels were stolen while grazing at Quhaililah, twenty four miles west-south-west of Jahrah, by a party consisting of 'Ali Abu Shuwairibāt and another Mutairi and seven men of the 'Anizah.

When news of the above reached Jahrah, a party was sent in pursuit, which however failed to come up with the robbers, although it succeeded in recovering some thirty of the weaker camels, which were not able to keep up.

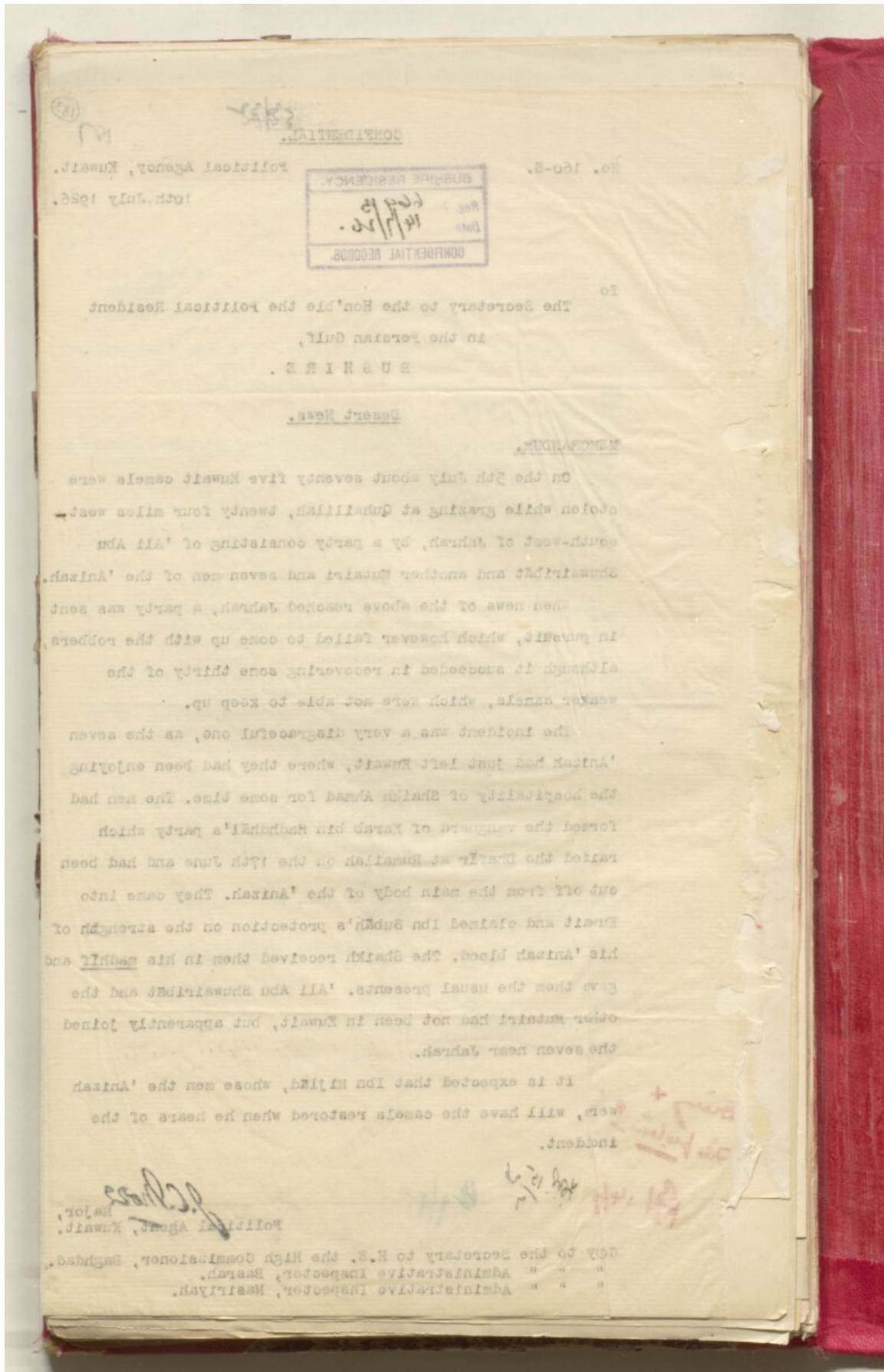
The incident was a very disgraceful one, as the seven 'Anizah had just left Kuwait, where they had been enjoying the hospitality of Shaikh Ahmad for some time. The men had formed the vanguard of Karab bin Madhdhāl's party which raided the Dharīr at Rumailah on the 17th June and had been cut off from the main body of the 'Anizah. They came into Kuwait and claimed Ibn Subāh's protection on the strength of his 'Anizah blood. The Shaikh received them in his madhif and gave them the usual presents. 'Ali Abu Shuwairibāt and the other Mutairi had not been in Kuwait, but apparently joined the seven near Jahrah.

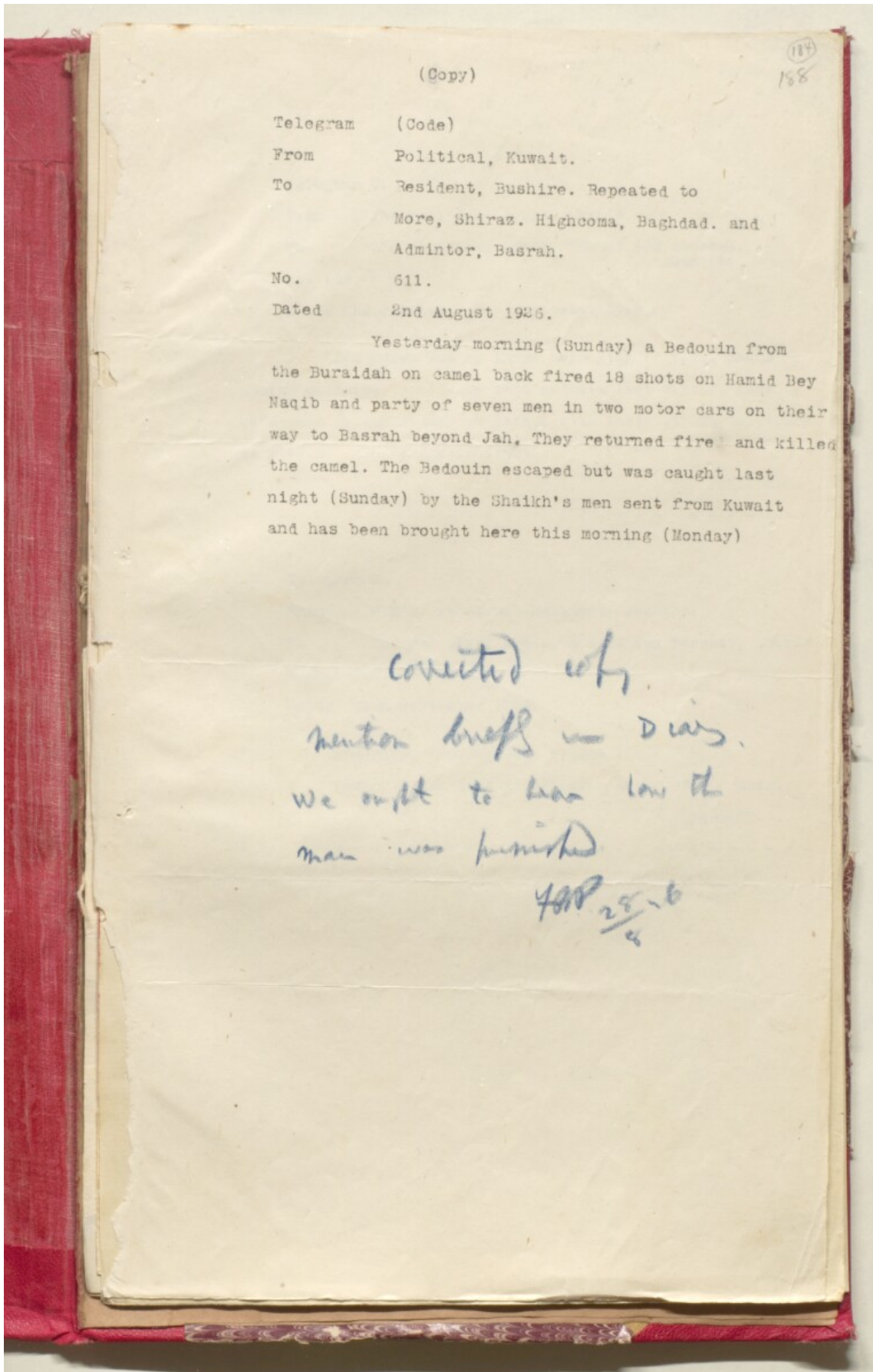
It is expected that Ibn Mijlād, whose men the 'Anizah were, will have the camels restored when he hears of the incident.

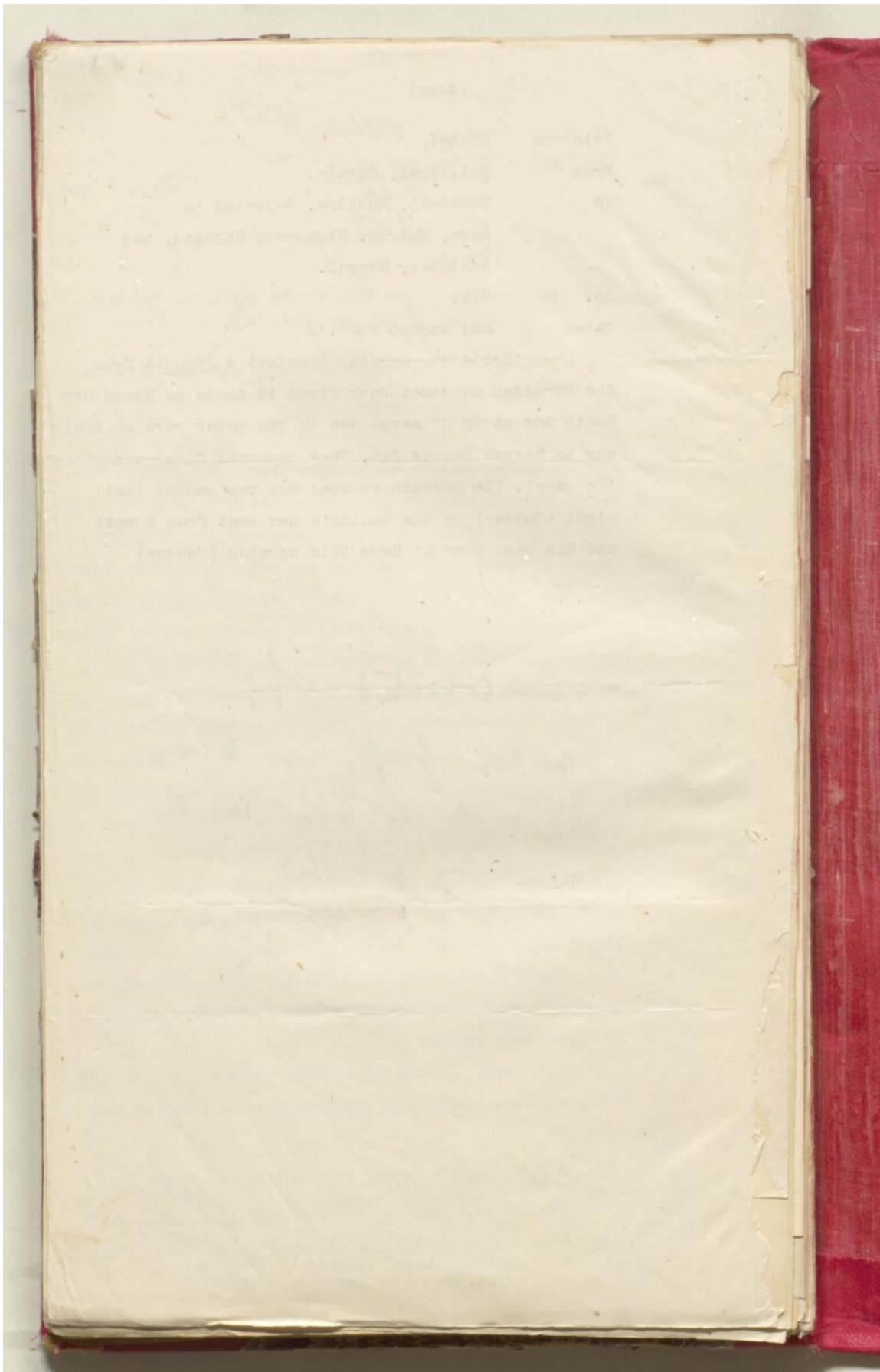
J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

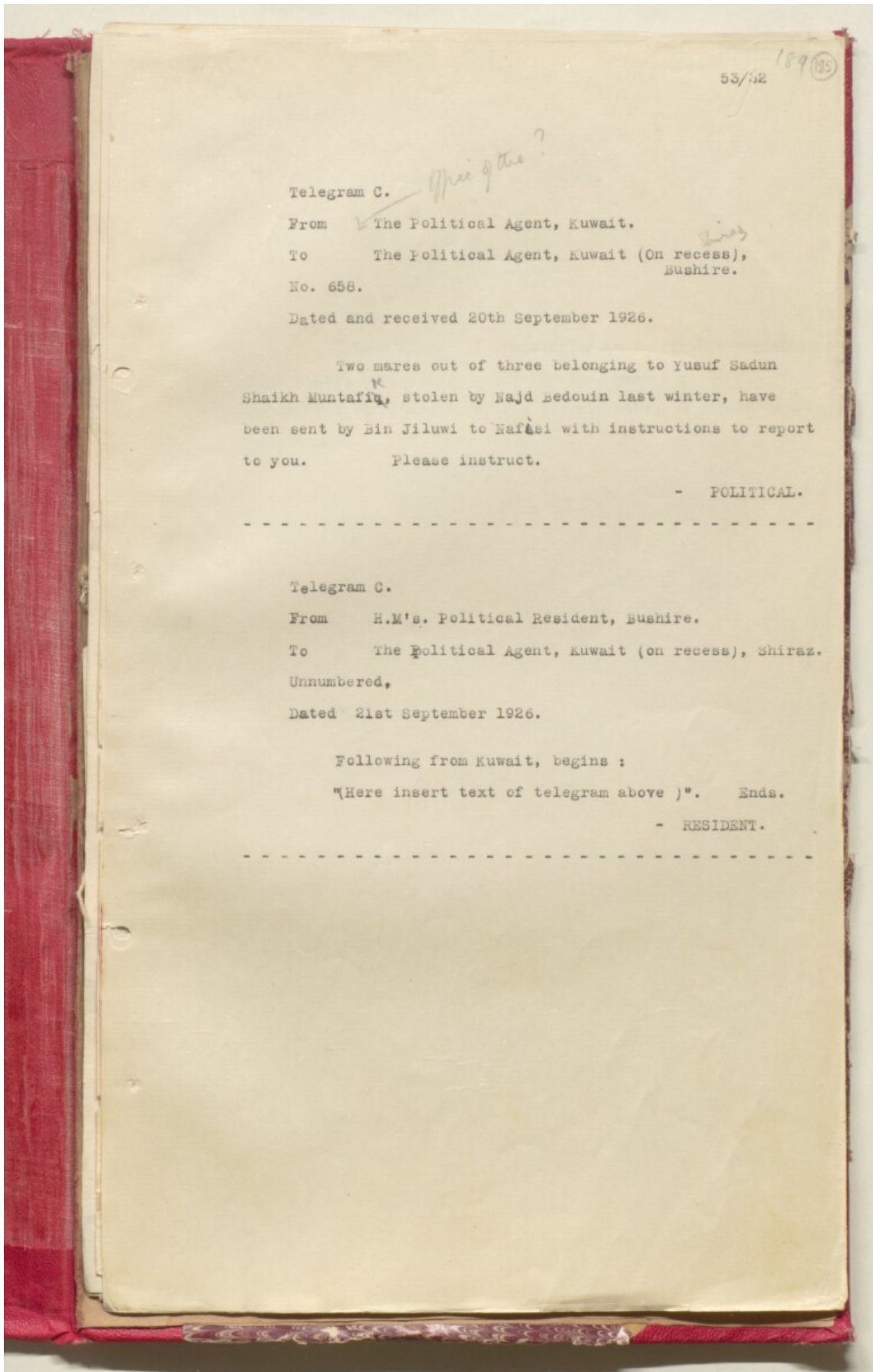
Copy to the Secretary to H.E. the High Commissioner, Baghdad.
" " " Administrative Inspector, Basrah.
" " " Administrative Inspector, Nasiriyah.

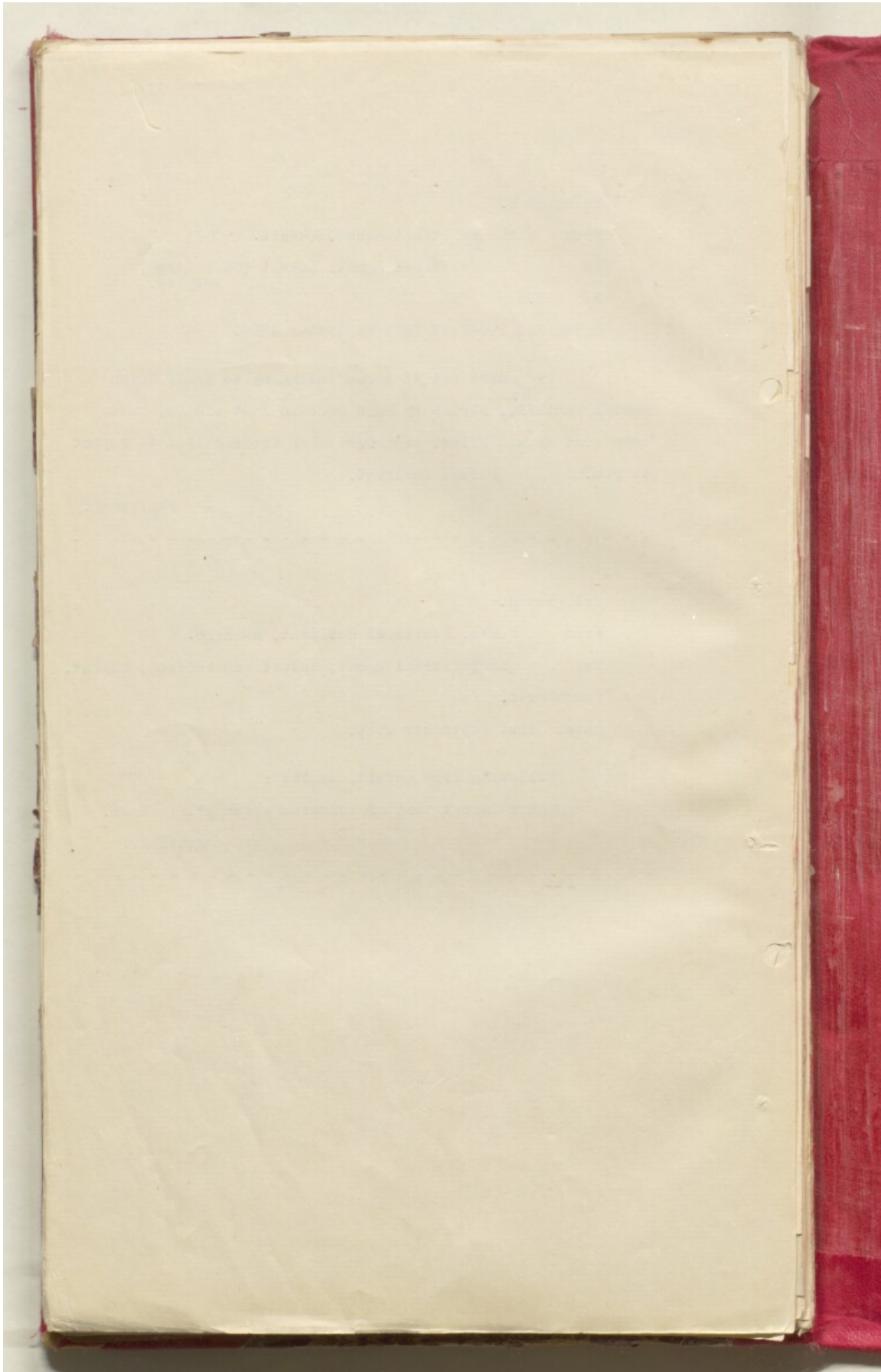
Bring +
File in...
13/14/26 15/7

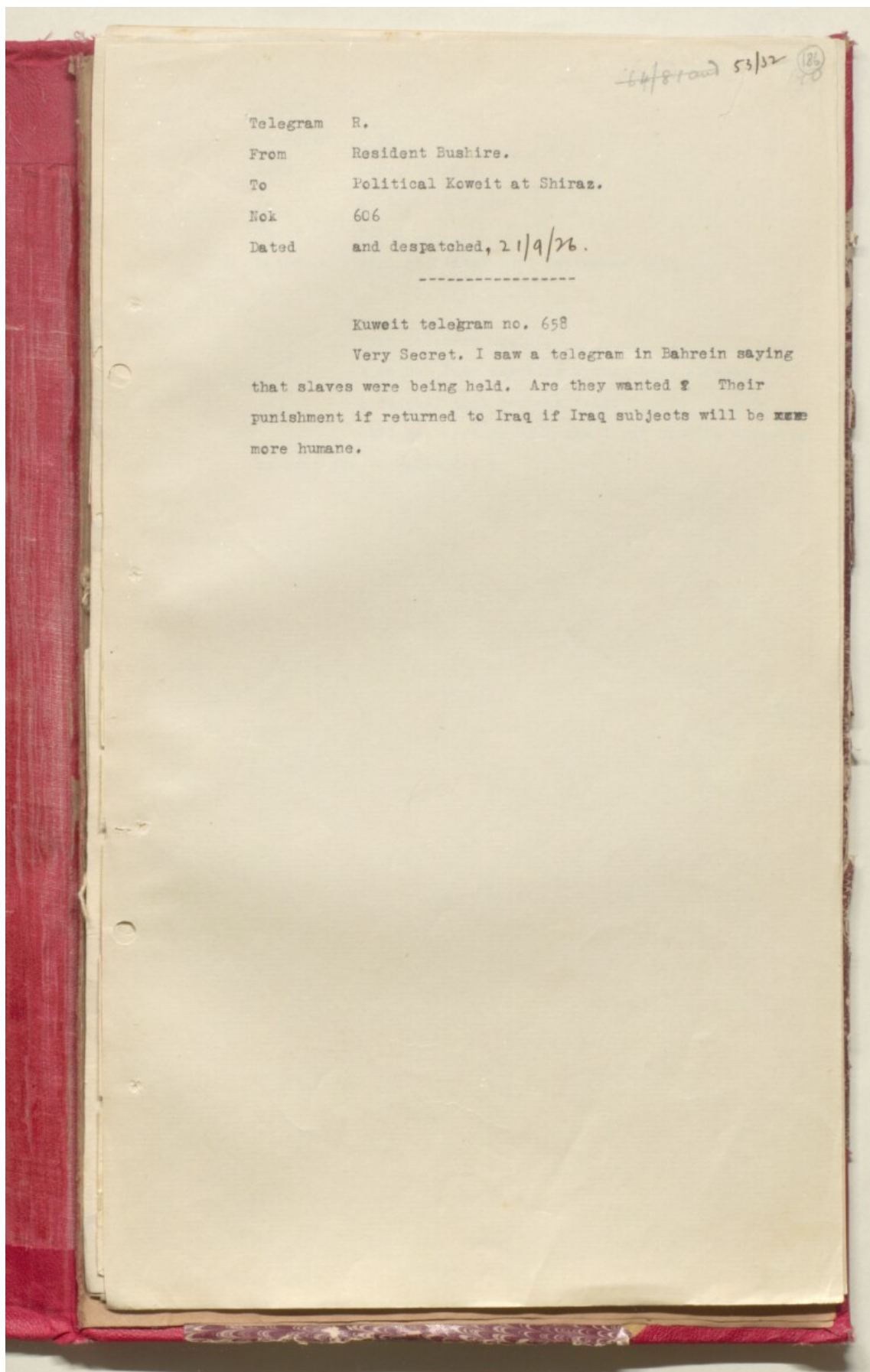


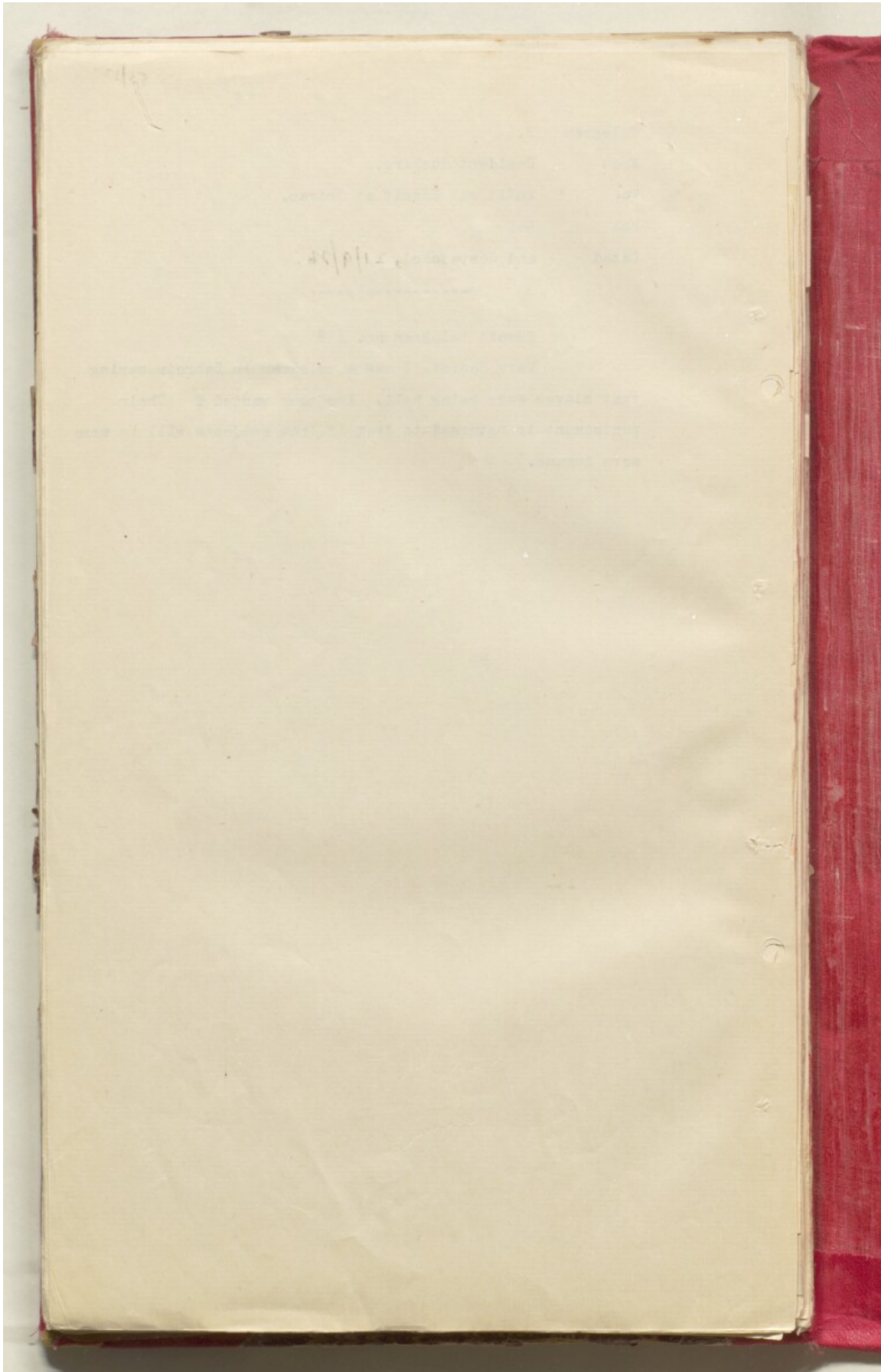


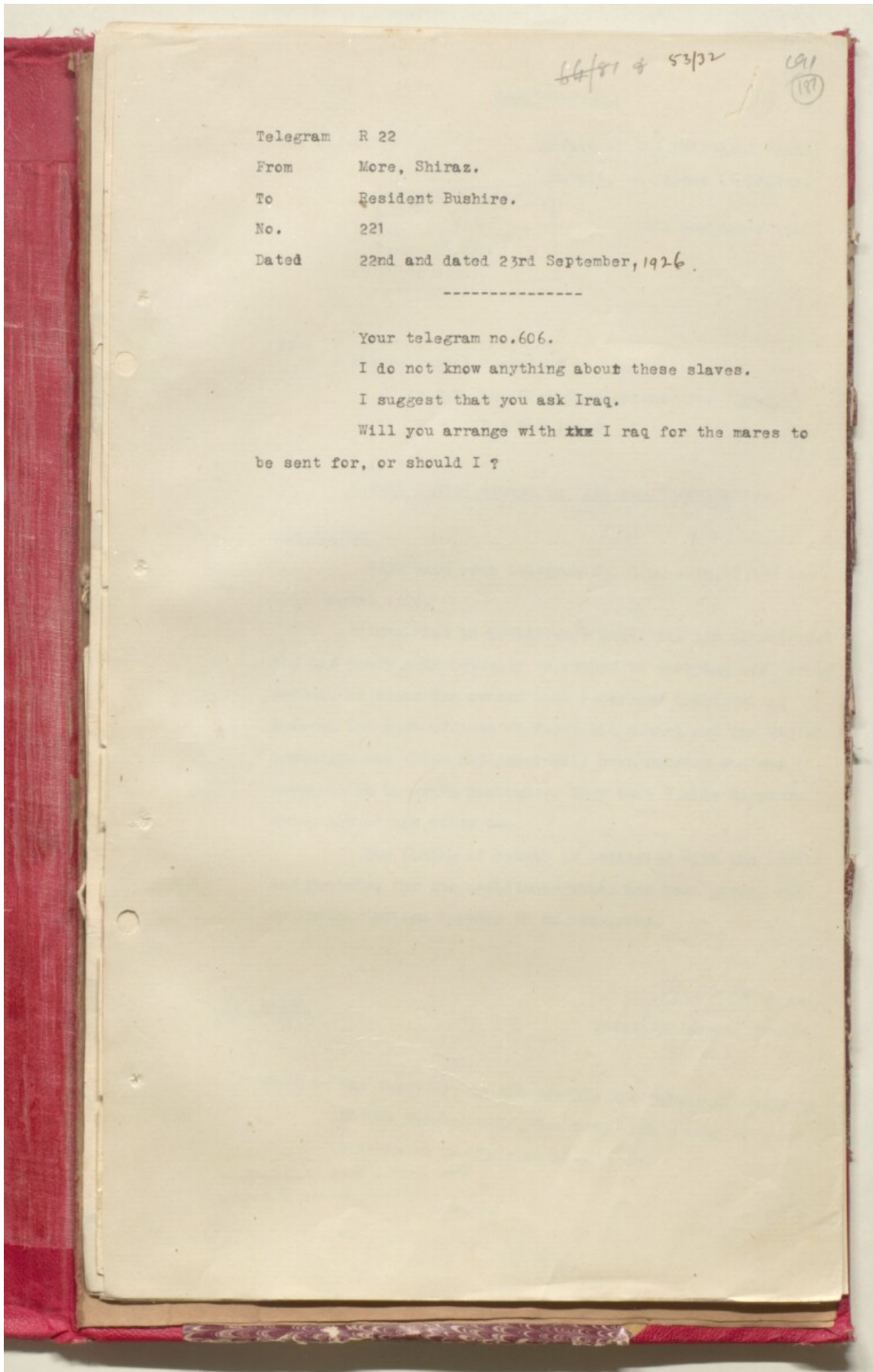


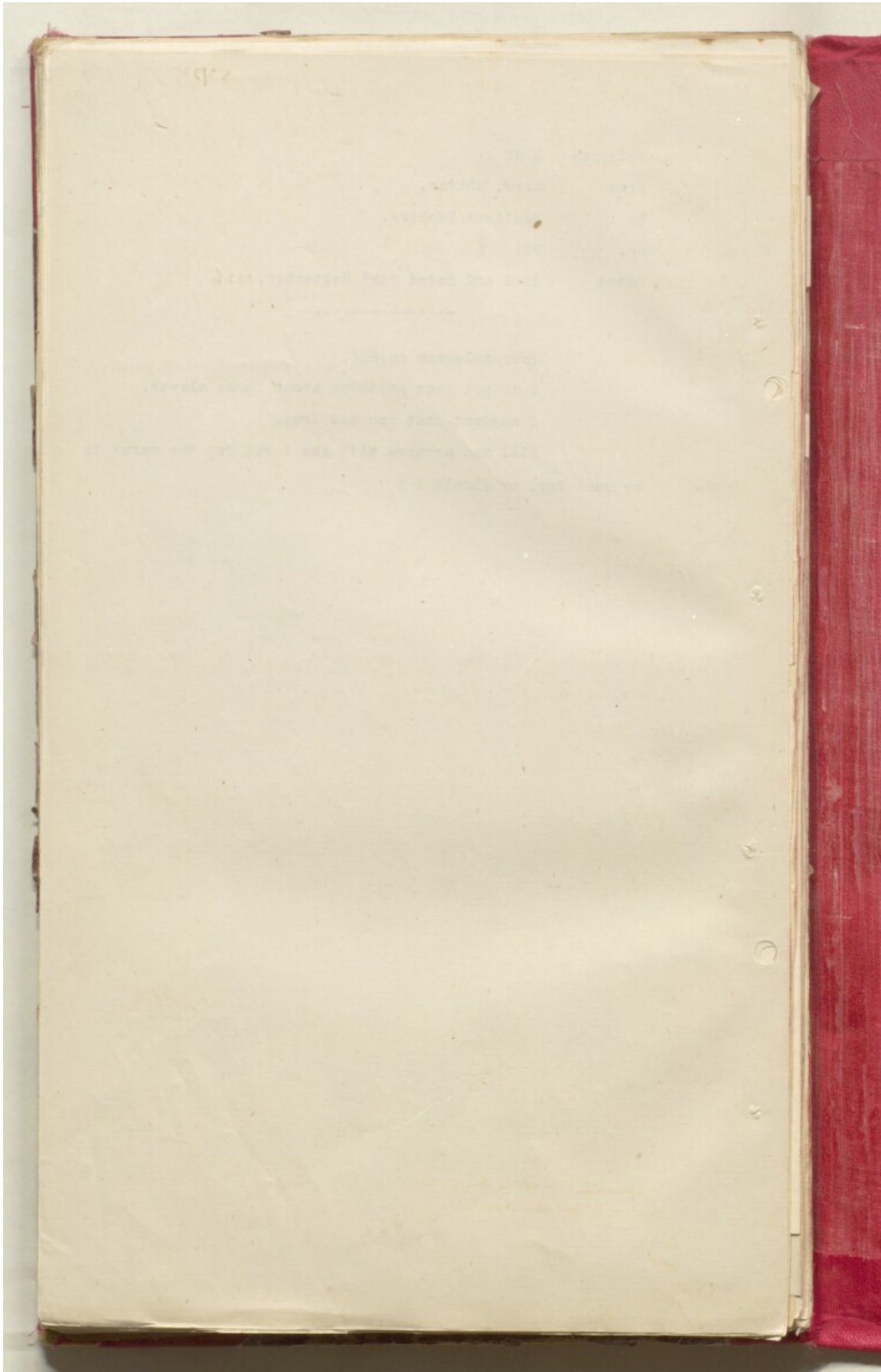


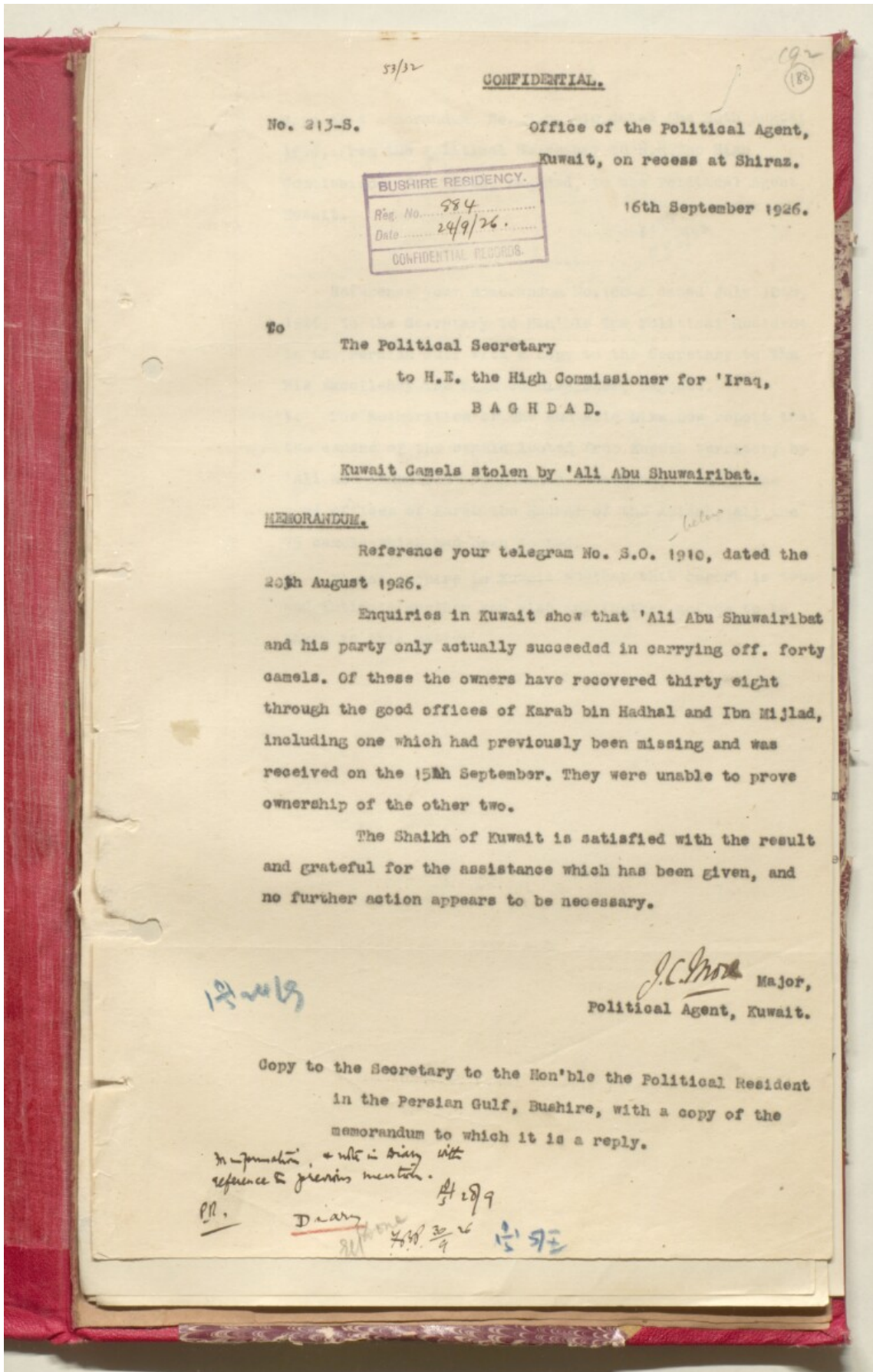


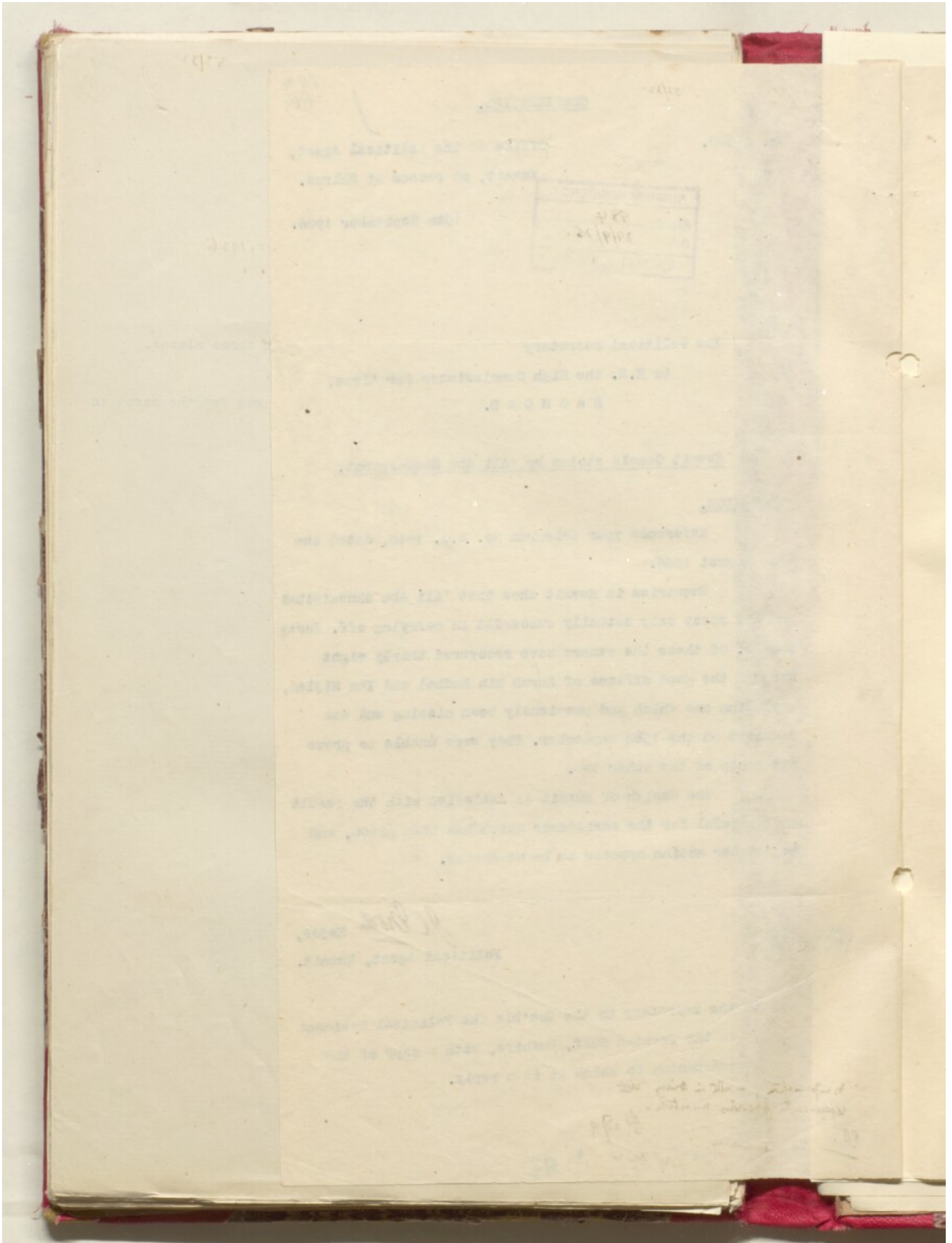


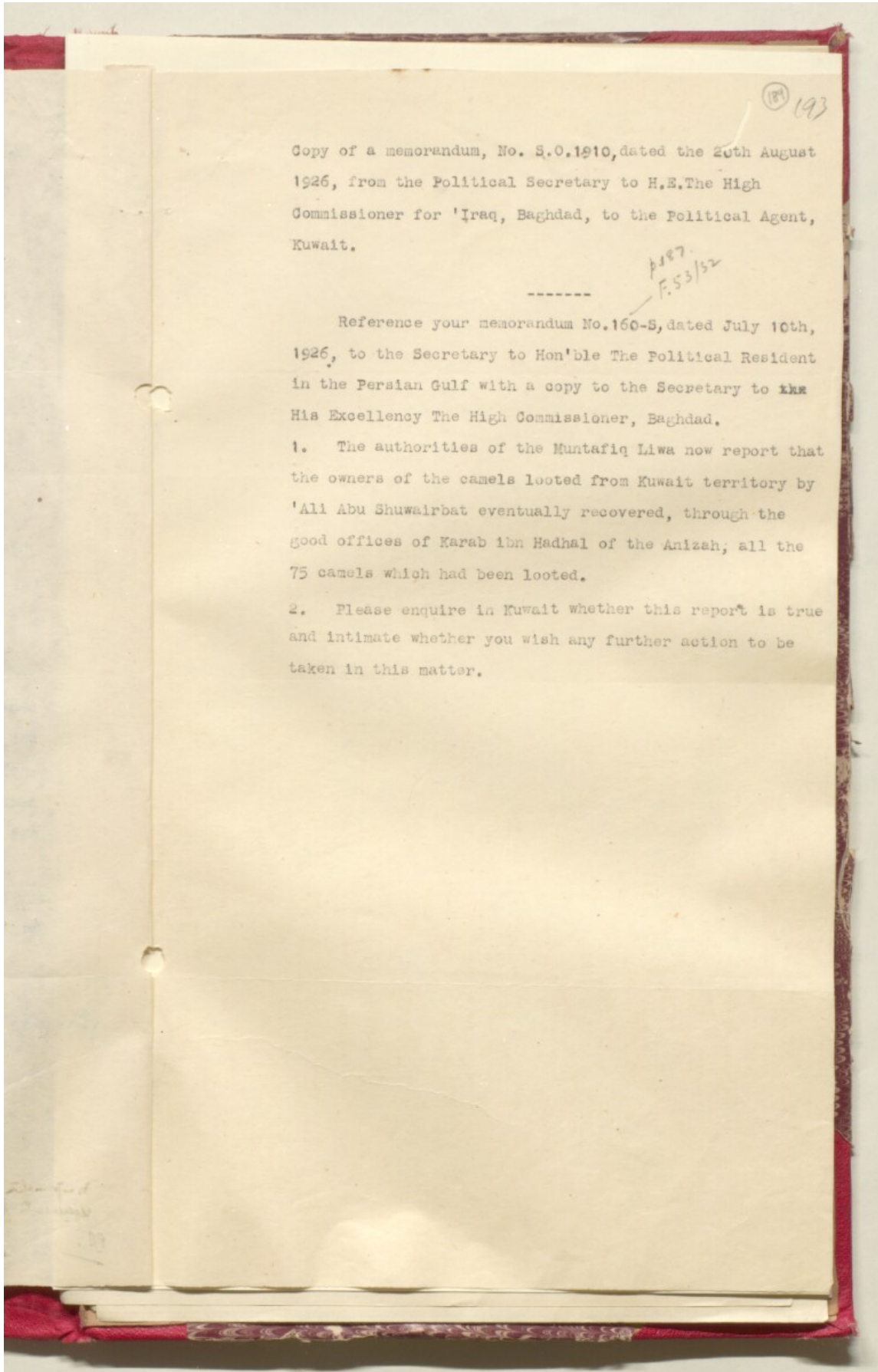








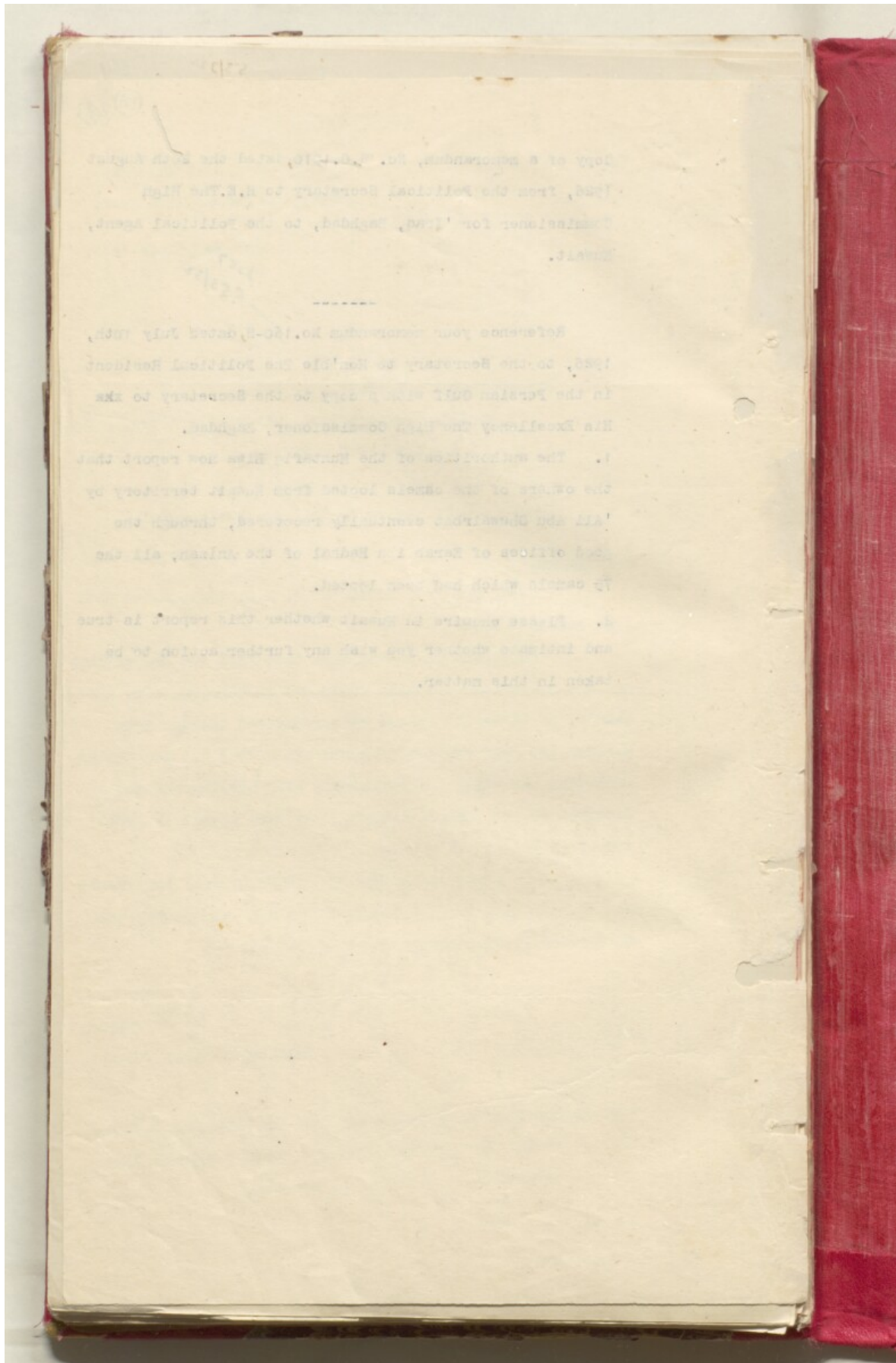


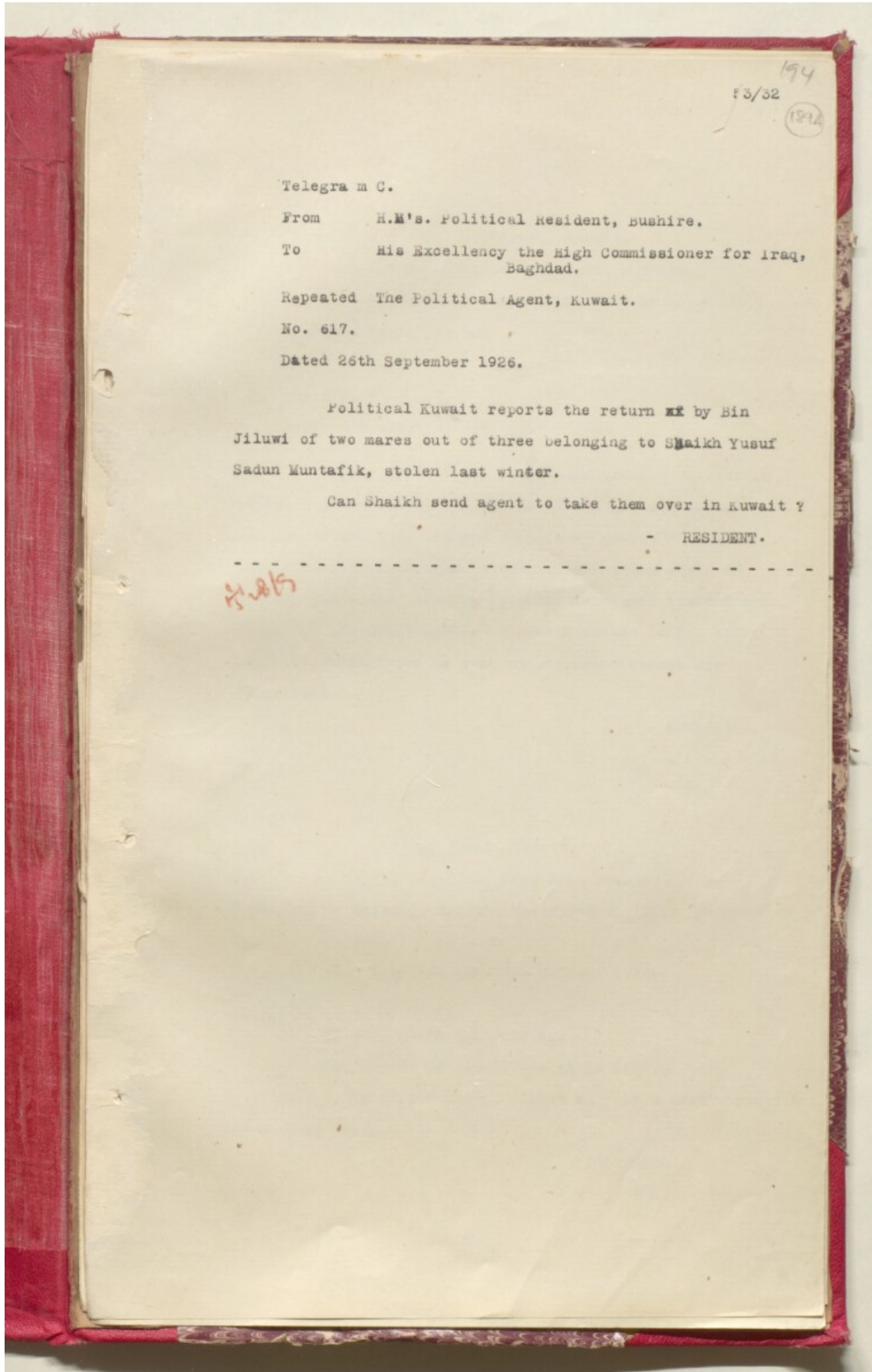


Copy of a memorandum, No. S.O.1910, dated the 20th August 1926, from the Political Secretary to H.E. The High Commissioner for 'Iraq, Baghdad, to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

Reference your memorandum No. 160-S, dated July 10th, 1926, to the Secretary to Hon'ble The Political Resident in the Persian Gulf with a copy to the Secretary to ~~the~~ His Excellency The High Commissioner, Baghdad.

1. The authorities of the Muntafiq Liwa now report that the owners of the camels looted from Kuwait territory by 'Ali Abu Shuwairbat eventually recovered, through the good offices of Karab ibn Hadhal of the Anizah; all the 75 camels which had been looted.
2. Please enquire in Kuwait whether this report is true and intimate whether you wish any further action to be taken in this matter.





Telegra m C.

From H.M's. Political Resident, Bushire.

To His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq,
Baghdad.

Repeated The Political Agent, Kuwait.

No. 617.

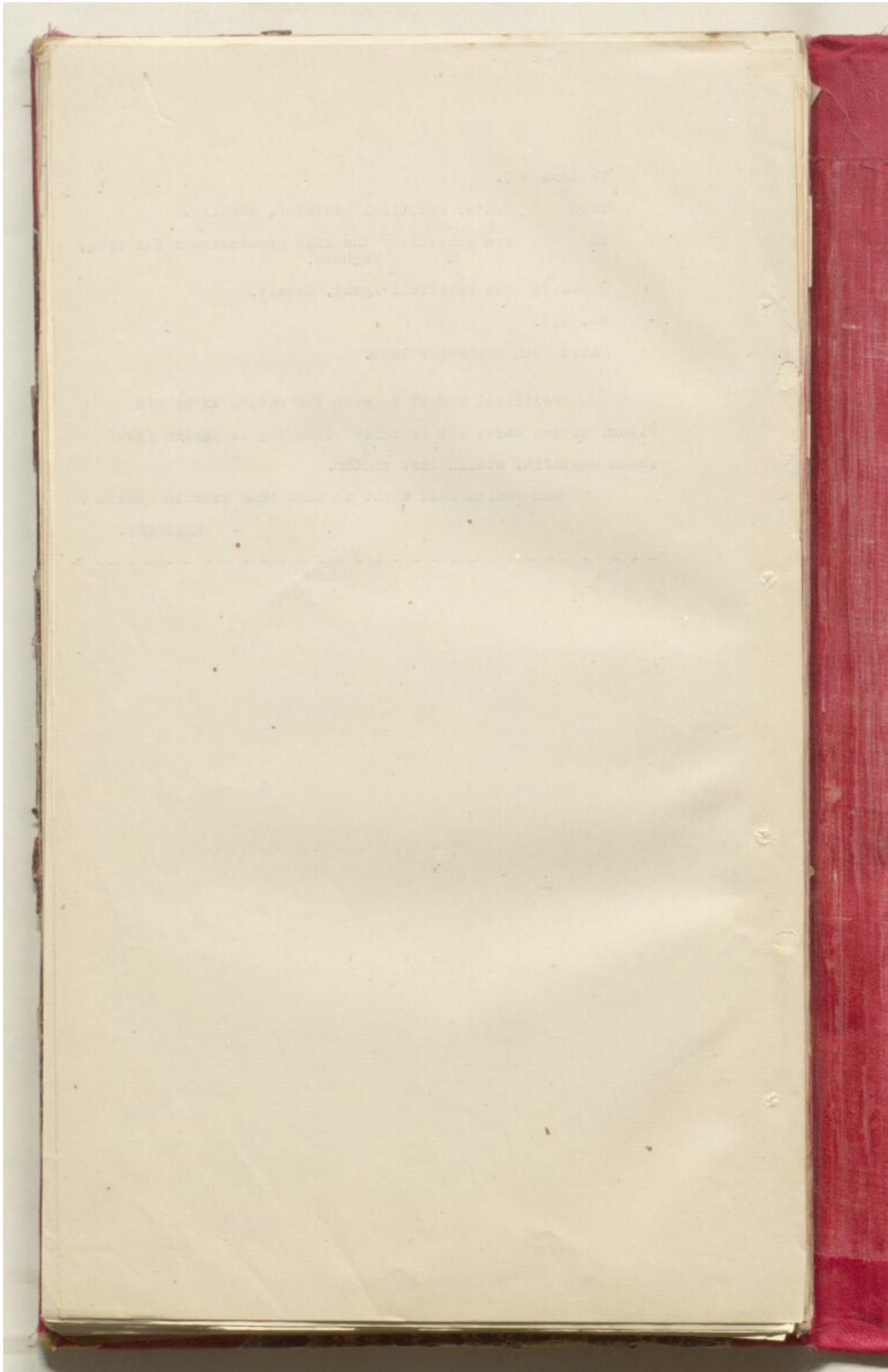
Dated 26th September 1926.

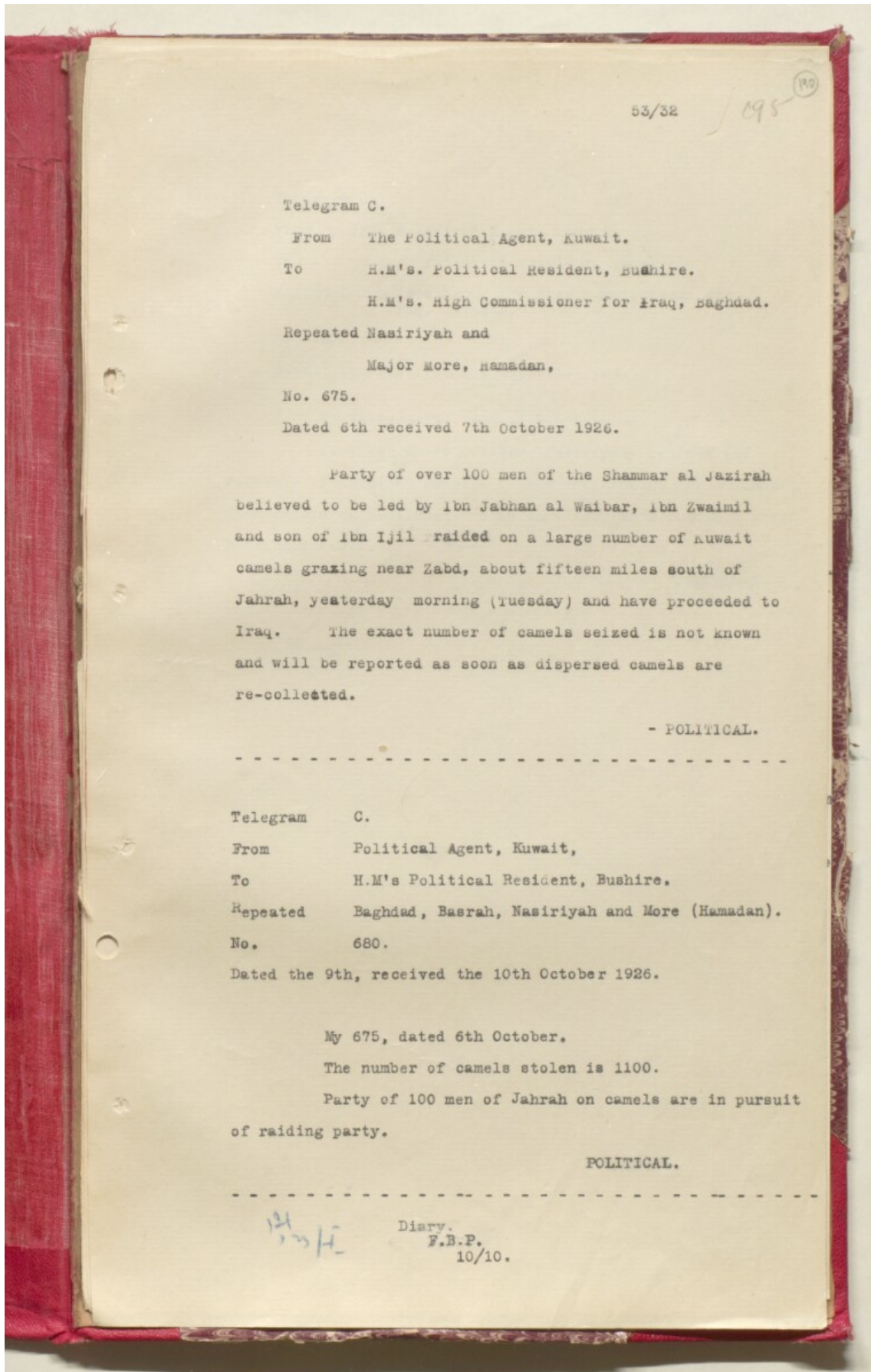
Political Kuwait reports the return ~~of~~ by Bin
Jiluwi of two mares out of three belonging to Shaikh Yusuf
Sadun Muntafik, stolen last winter.

Can Shaikh send agent to take them over in Kuwait ?

- RESIDENT.

H. M.





Telegram C.

From The Political Agent, Kuwait.
To H.M.'s. Political Resident, Bushire.
H.M.'s. High Commissioner for Iraq, Baghdad.
Repeated Nasiriyah and
Major More, Hamadan,
No. 675.
Dated 6th received 7th October 1926.

Party of over 100 men of the Shammar al Jazirah
believed to be led by Ibn Jabhan al Waibar, Ibn Zwaimil
and son of Ibn Ijil raided on a large number of Kuwait
camels grazing near Zabd, about fifteen miles south of
Jahrah, yesterday morning (Tuesday) and have proceeded to
Iraq. The exact number of camels seized is not known
and will be reported as soon as dispersed camels are
re-collected.

- POLITICAL.

Telegram C.
From Political Agent, Kuwait,
To H.M.'s Political Resident, Bushire.
Repeated Baghdad, Basrah, Nasiriyah and More (Hamadan).
No. 680.
Dated the 9th, received the 10th October 1926.

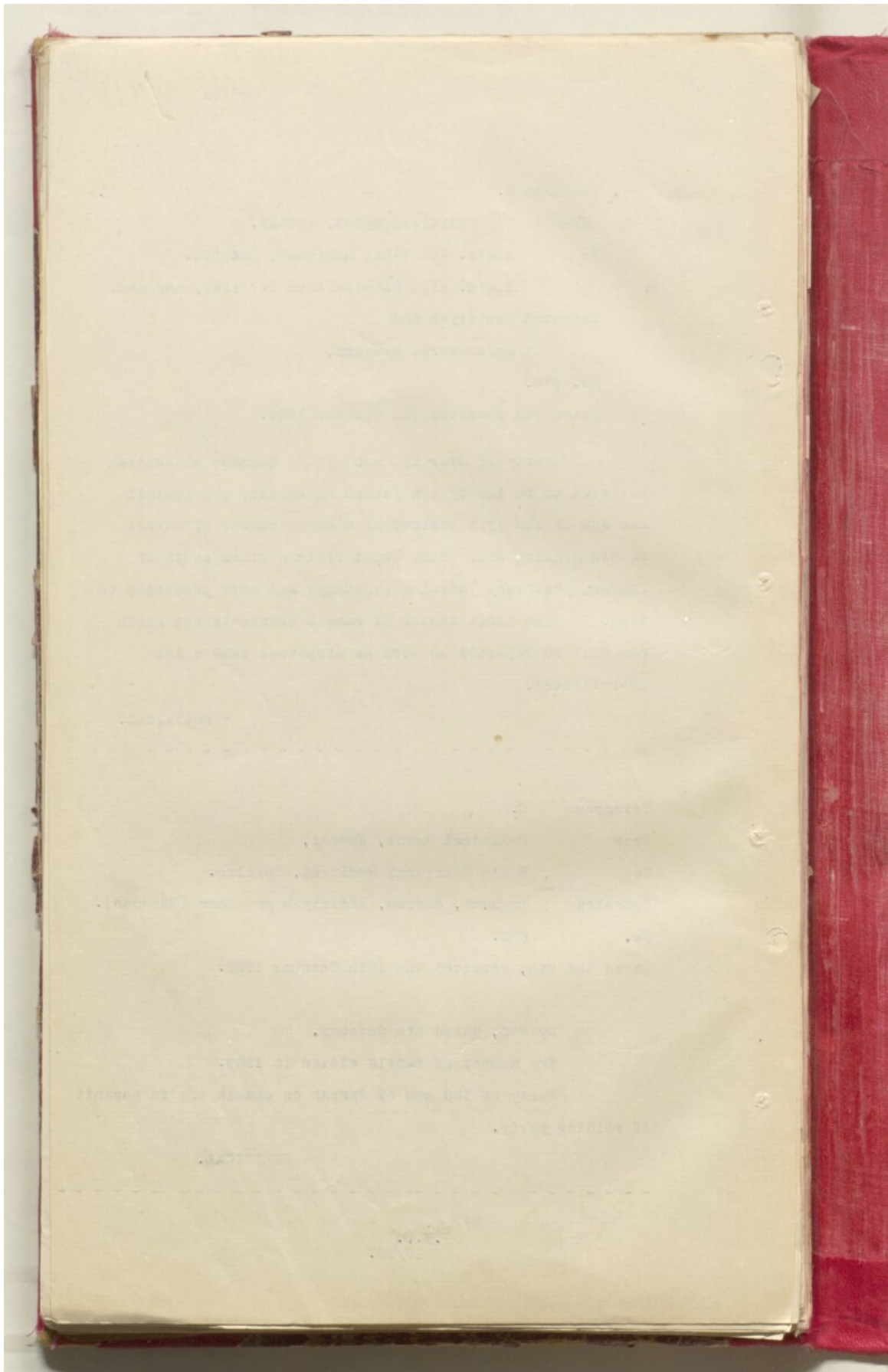
My 675, dated 6th October.

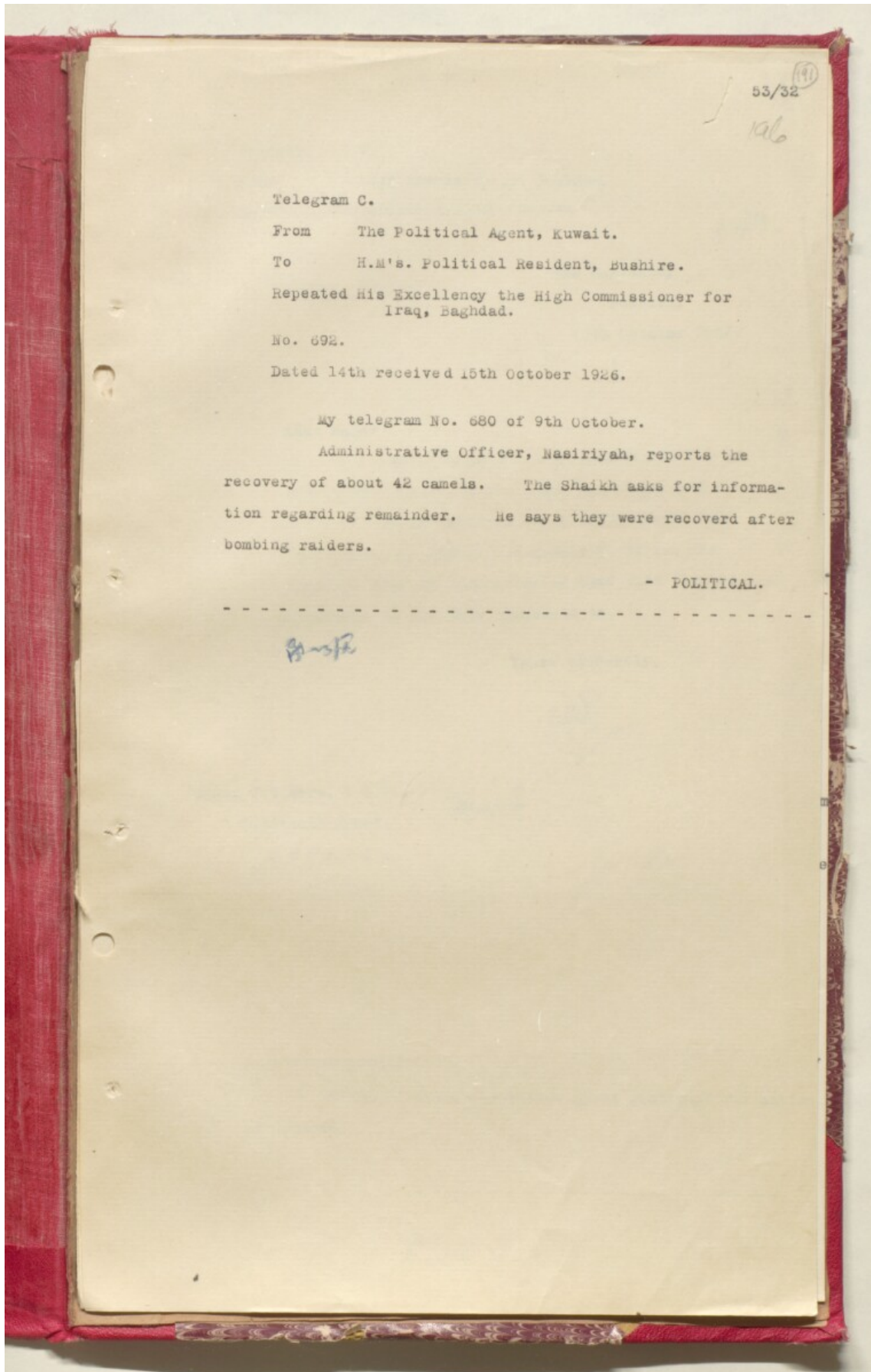
The number of camels stolen is 1100.

Party of 100 men of Jahrah on camels are in pursuit
of raiding party.

POLITICAL.

Diary.
F.B.P.
10/10.





Telegram C.

From The Political Agent, Kuwait.

To H.M.'s. Political Resident, Bushire.

Repeated His Excellency the High Commissioner for
Iraq, Baghdad.

No. 692.

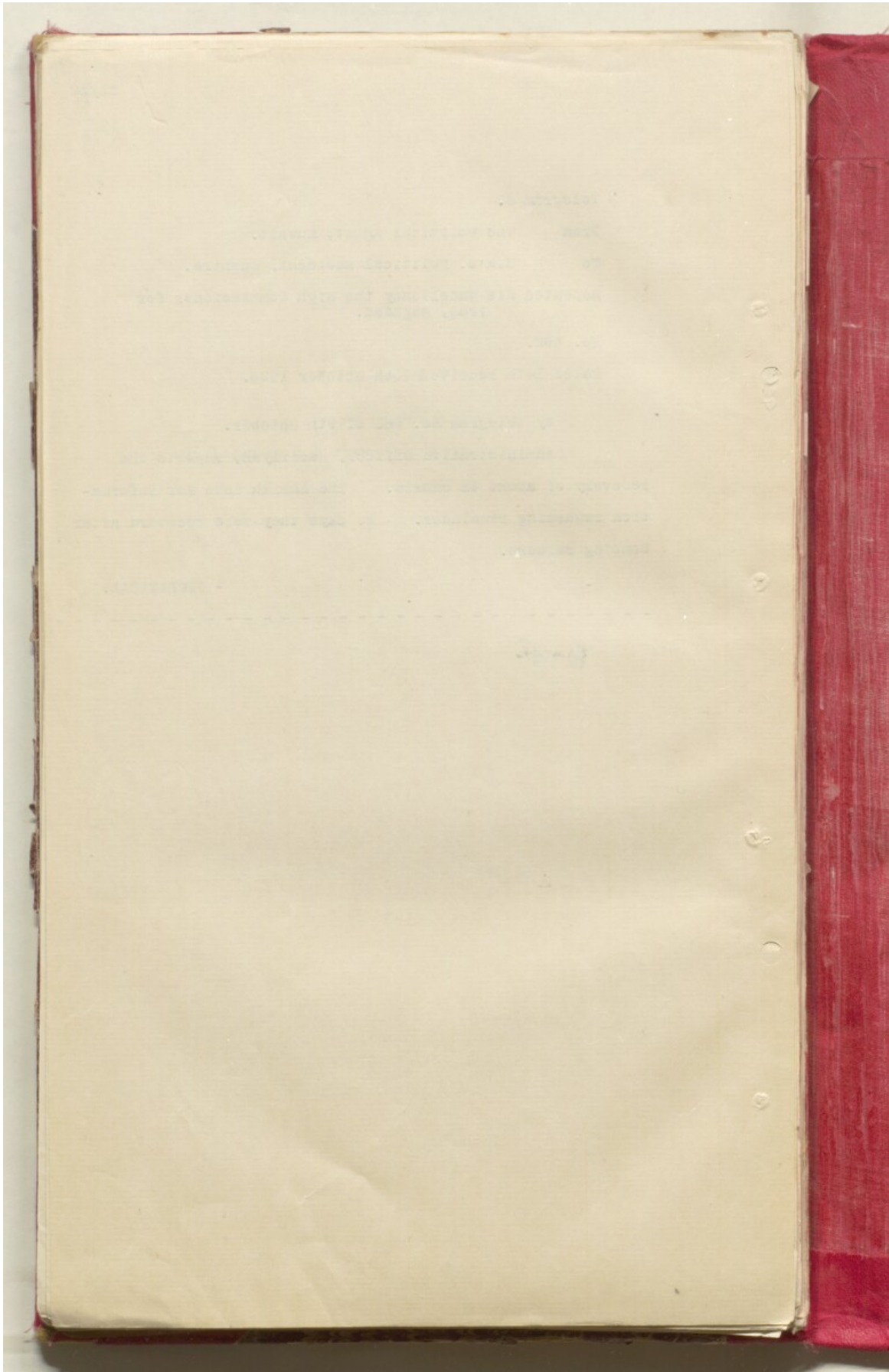
Dated 14th received 15th October 1926.

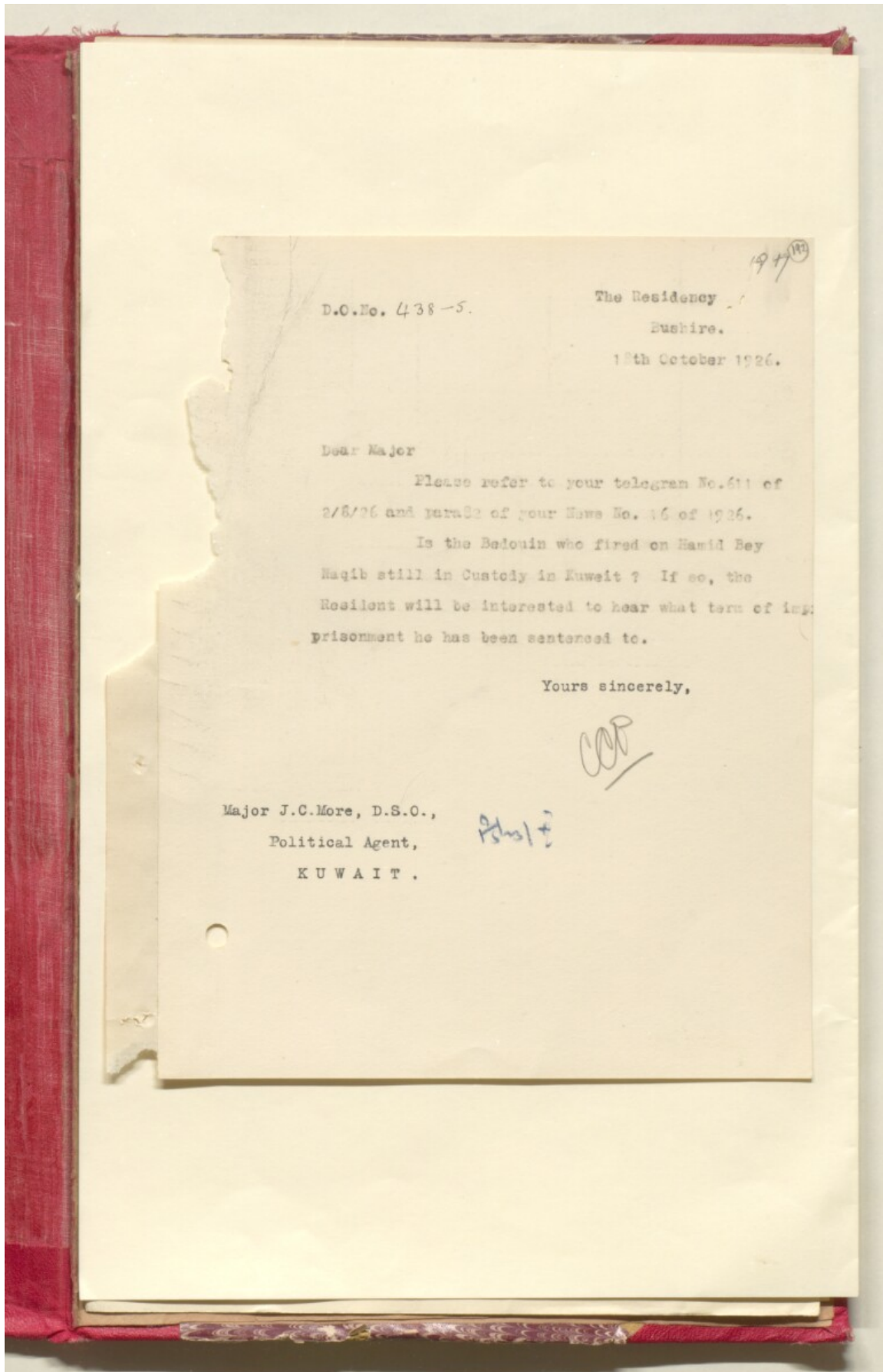
My telegram No. 680 of 9th October.

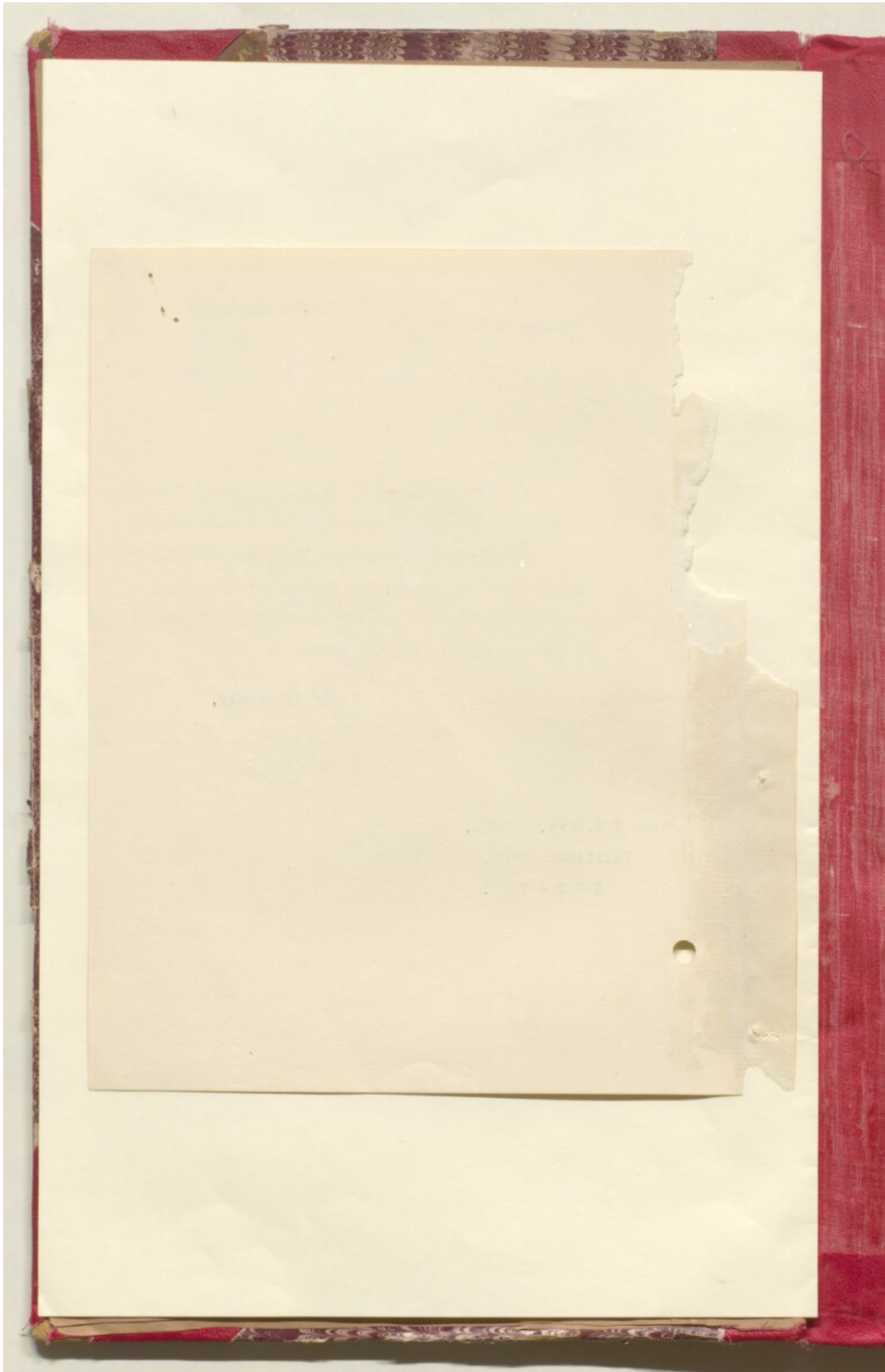
Administrative Officer, Nasiriyah, reports the
recovery of about 42 camels. The Shaikh asks for informa-
tion regarding remainder. He says they were recovered after
bombing raiders.

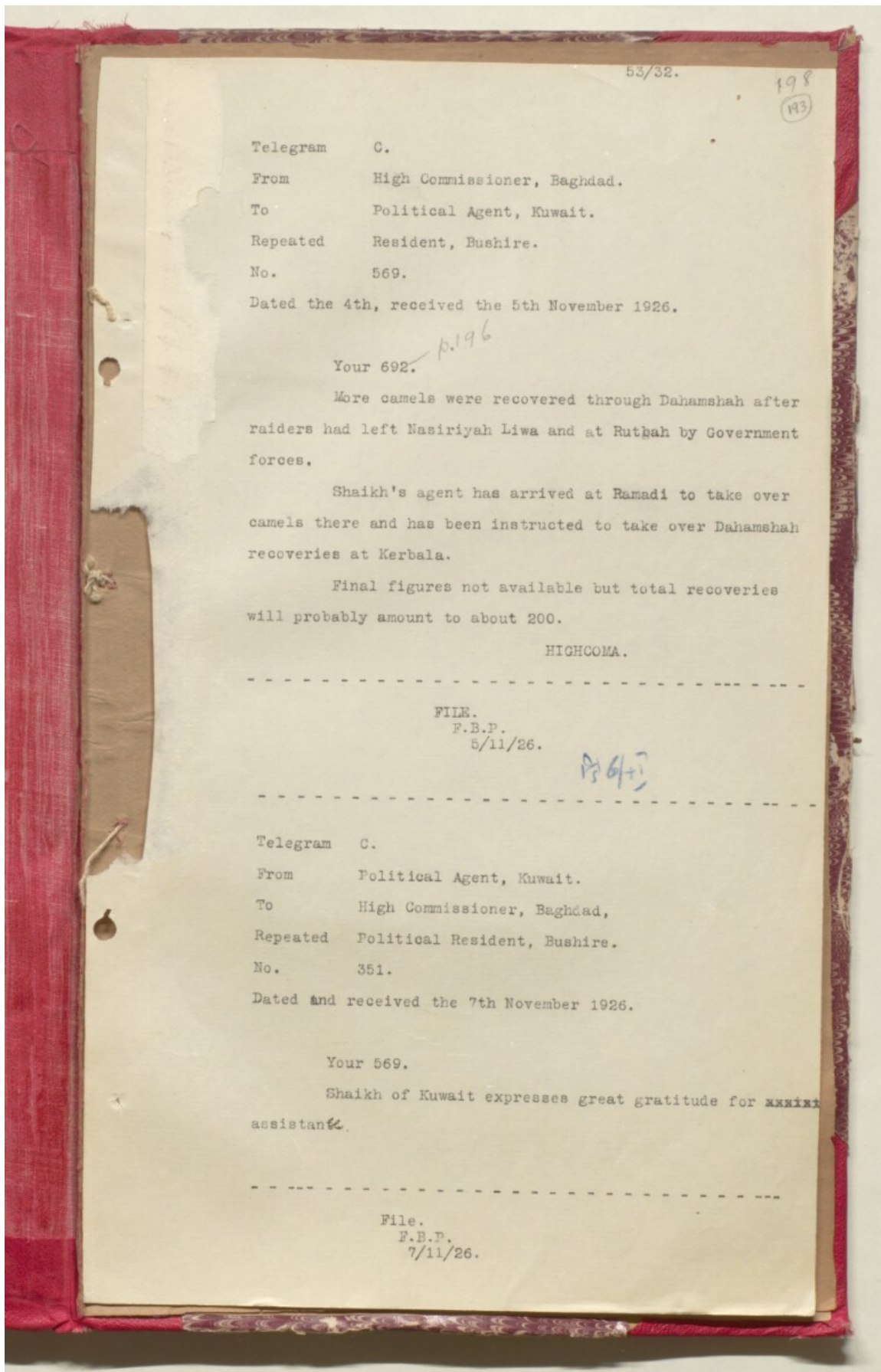
- POLITICAL.

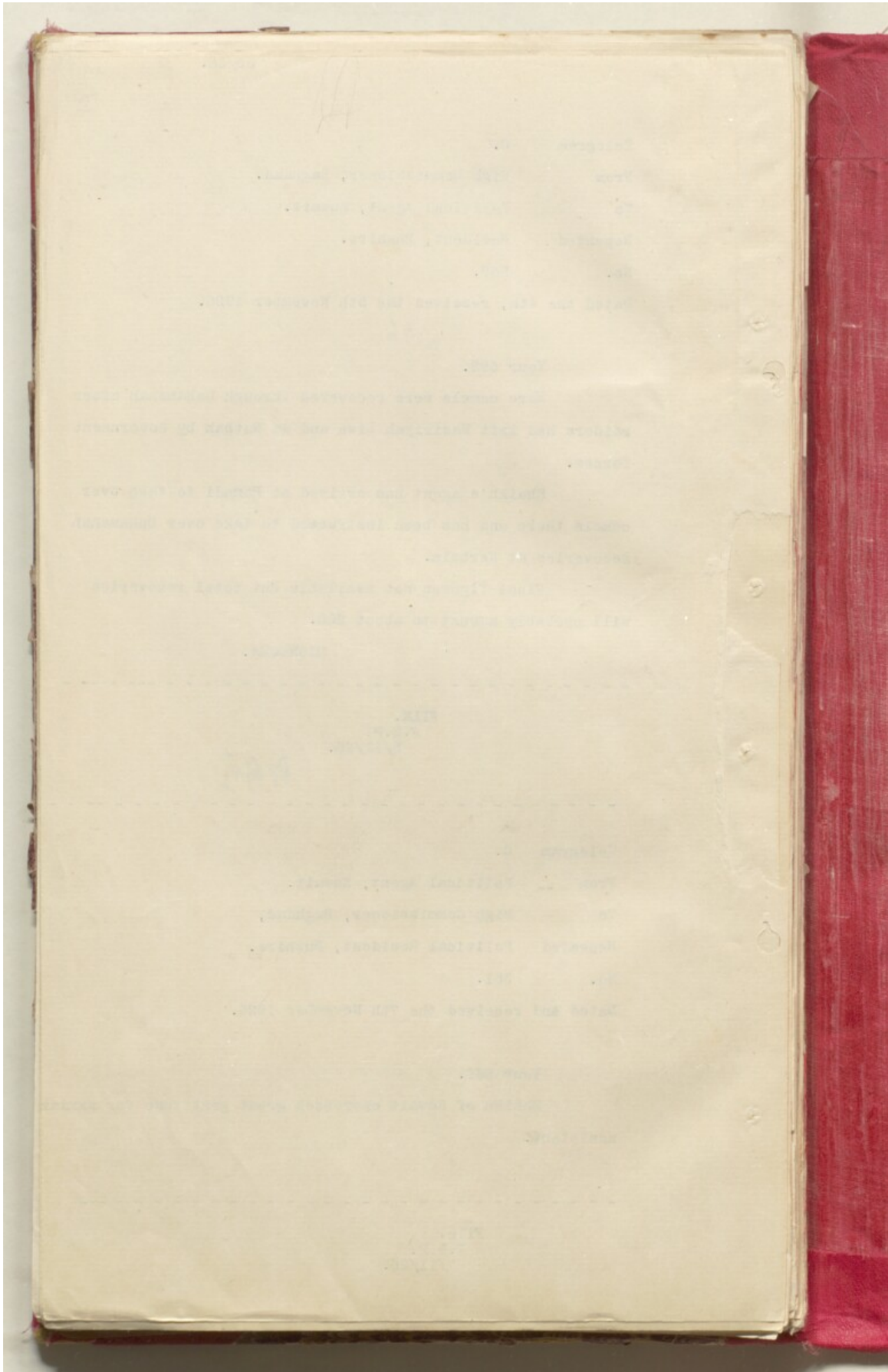
B. S. P.













53/32

CONFIDENTIAL.

NO. 340-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY. 23rd October 1926.

Reg. No. 979

Date 2/11/26

CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Assailant of Saiyid Hāmid Bey an-Naqīb.

MEMORANDUM.

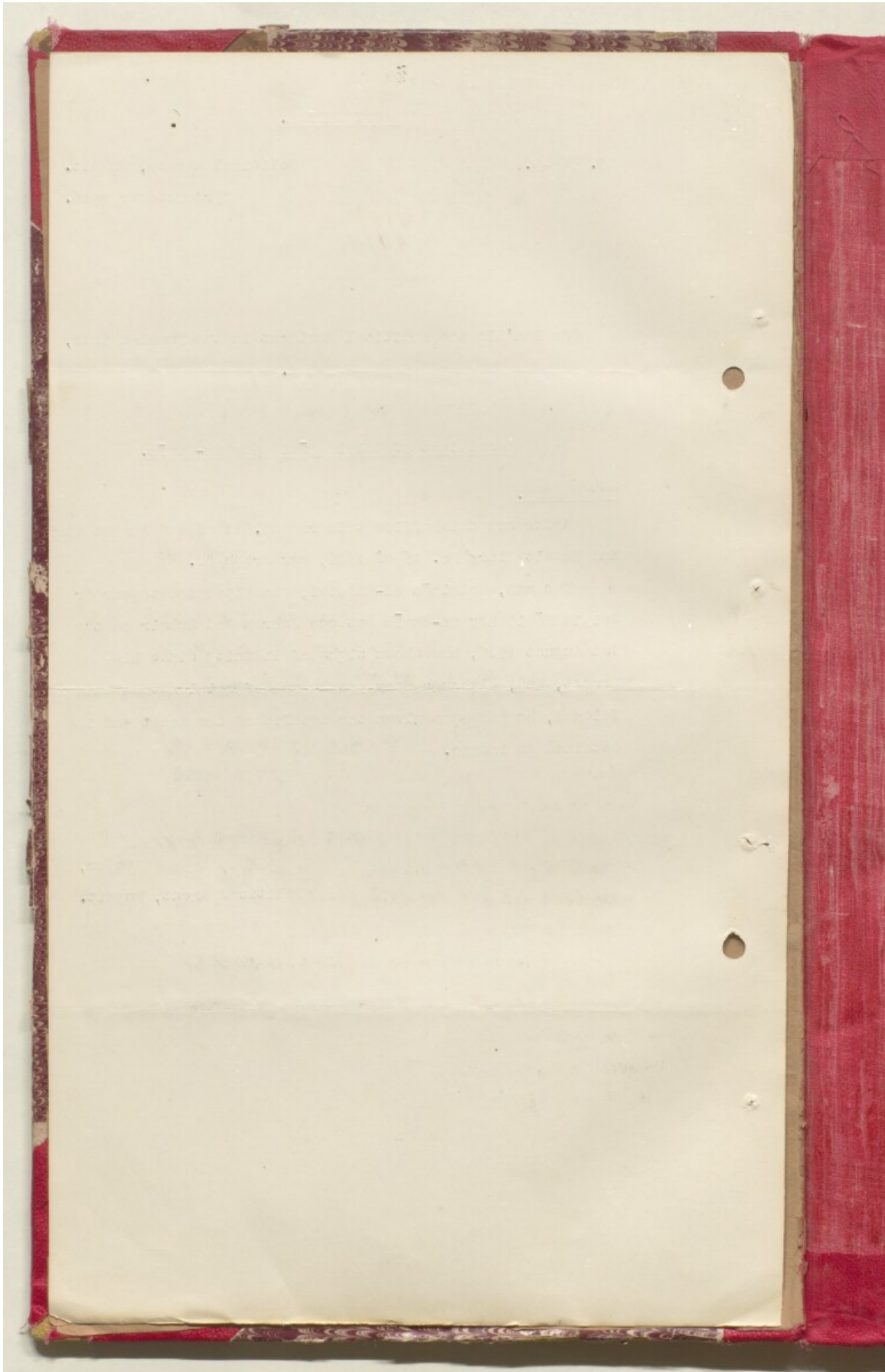
Reference this office telegram No. 611 of 2nd August 1926
and Kuwait Diary No. 16 of 1926, paragraph 82.

The man, Sulaimān al-Budaiwi, who attempted to murder
Saiyid Hāmid Bey an-Naqīb between Jahrah and Zubair on the
1st August 1926, has shown signs of insanity since his
arrest, and, although many people are of opinion that this is
feigned, he has been given the benefit of the doubt and is
detained as insane.

Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

18/1/27

Done 20/1/27





199-2 (195)

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 339-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
23rd October 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg. No. 977	
Date 2/11/26	
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E.

Discontent against the Shaikh of Kuwait.

MEMORANDUM.

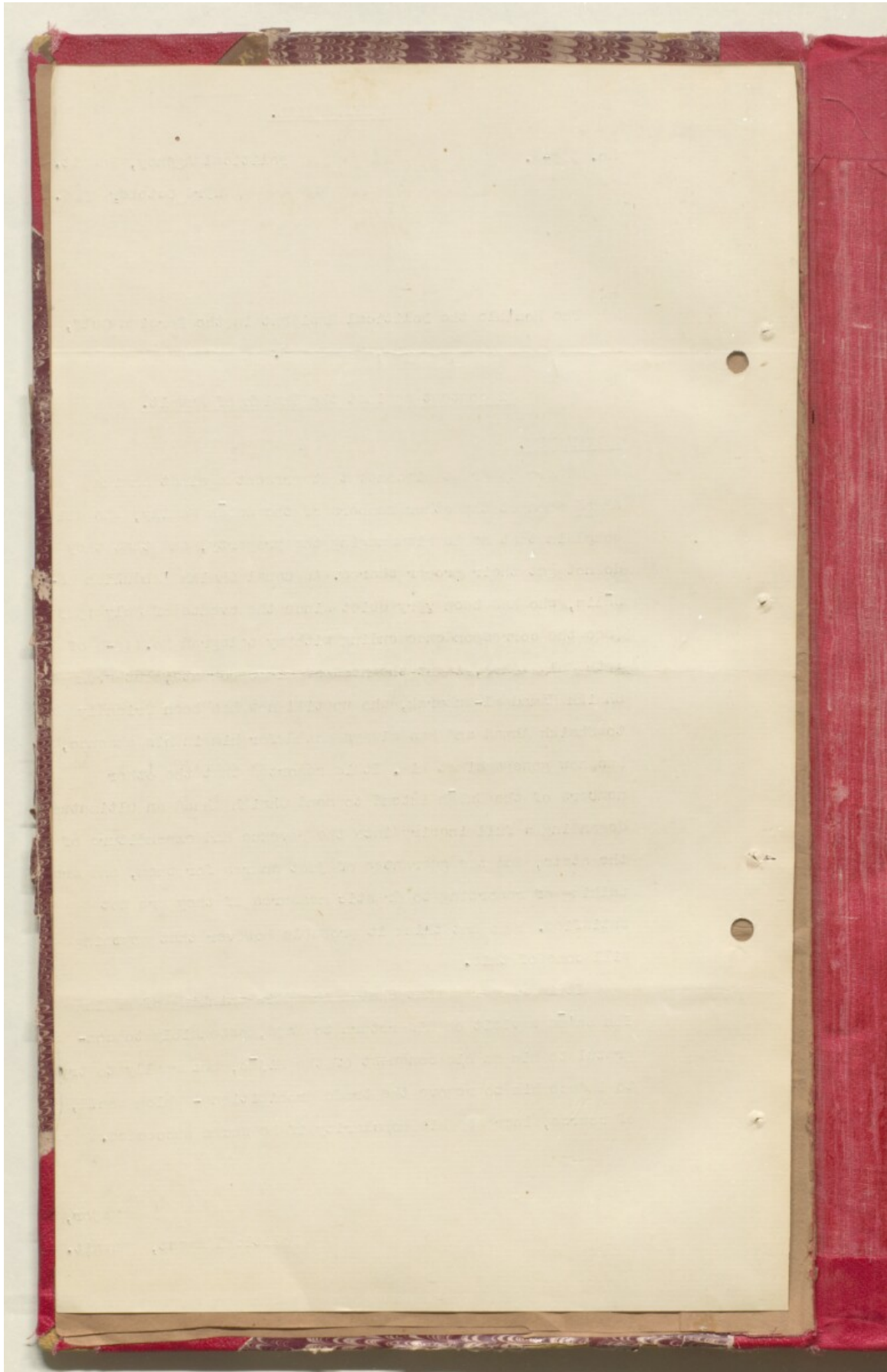
There is great discontent at present against Shaikh Ahmad amongst the other members of the Subāh Family, who all complain that he is mismanaging the property, and that they do not get their proper shares. As usual Shaikh 'Abdullah as-Sālim, who has been very quiet since the events of July 1923 (See the correspondence ending with my telegram No. 110-S of 19th July 1923), is at the head of his opponents, but even Shaikh Hamad al-Mubarak, who up till now has been friendly to Shaikh Ahmad and has always acted for him in his absence, has now gone against him. It is reported that the other members of the Subāh intend to send Shaikh Ahmad an ultimatum demanding a full inquiry into the revenue and expenditure of the state, and the guarantee of just shares for them, and are talking of resorting to drastic measures if they are not satisfied. I do not think it probable however that anything will come of this.

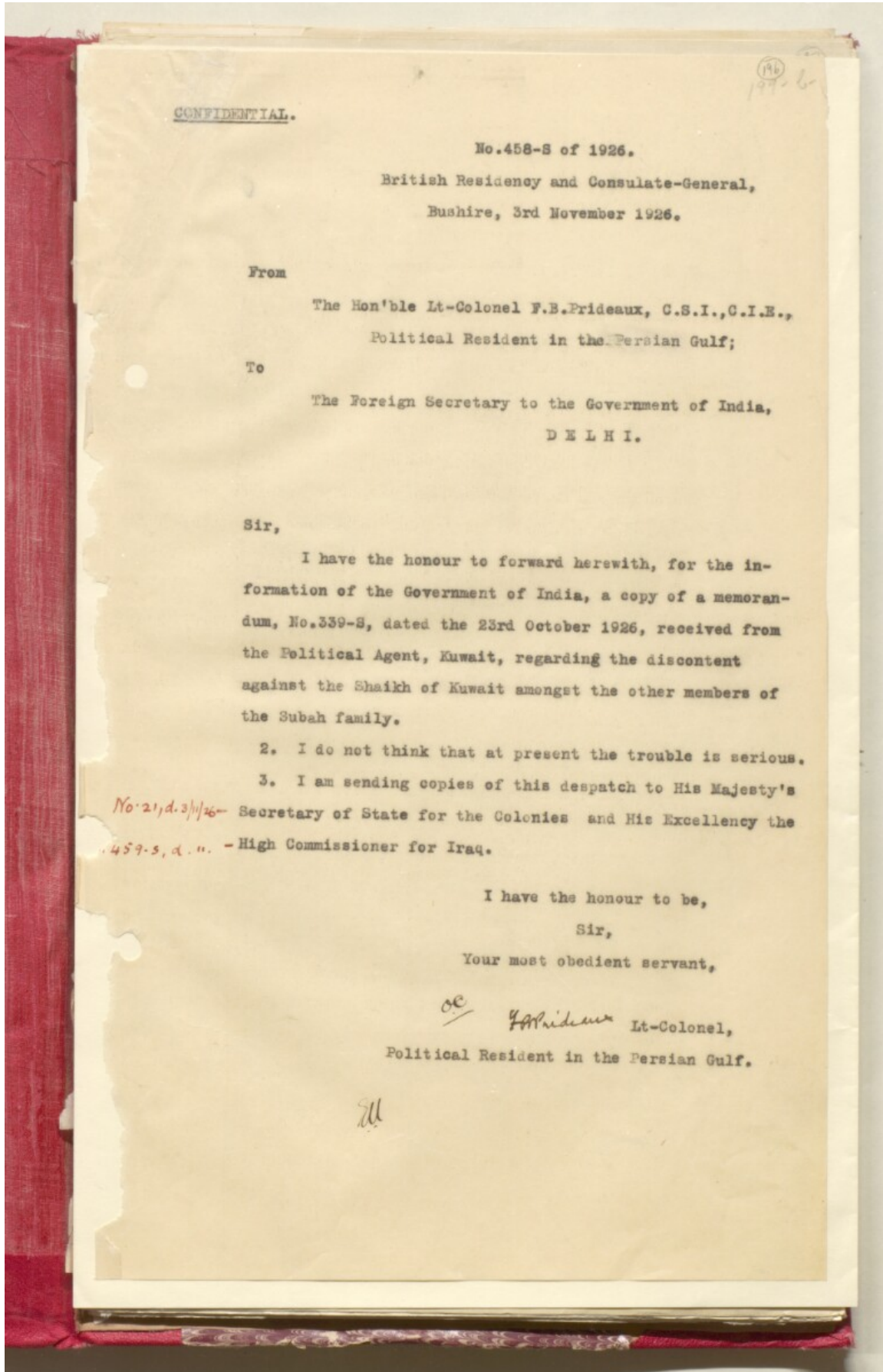
It is rumoured that Shaikh Ahmad is thinking of paying Ibn Sa'ūd a visit on his return to Najd, ostensibly to congratulate him on his conquest of the Hijāz, but really to try to induce him to remove the trade prohibition - which would, of course, increase his popularity if he ~~XXXX~~ succeeded.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

12/1/27
Col. to Colonel H. H. H.
& Baghdad.
H. H. H.

X/p 509
file 61/7





CONFIDENTIAL.

No.458-S of 1926.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 3rd November 1926.

From

The Hon'ble Lt-Colonel F.B.Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf;

To

The Foreign Secretary to the Government of India,
D E L H I.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith, for the information of the Government of India, a copy of a memorandum, No.339-S, dated the 23rd October 1926, received from the Political Agent, Kuwait, regarding the discontent against the Shaikh of Kuwait amongst the other members of the Subah family.

2. I do not think that at present the trouble is serious.

3. I am sending copies of this despatch to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies and His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq.

No. 2, d. 3/11/26 -
459-S, d. 11.

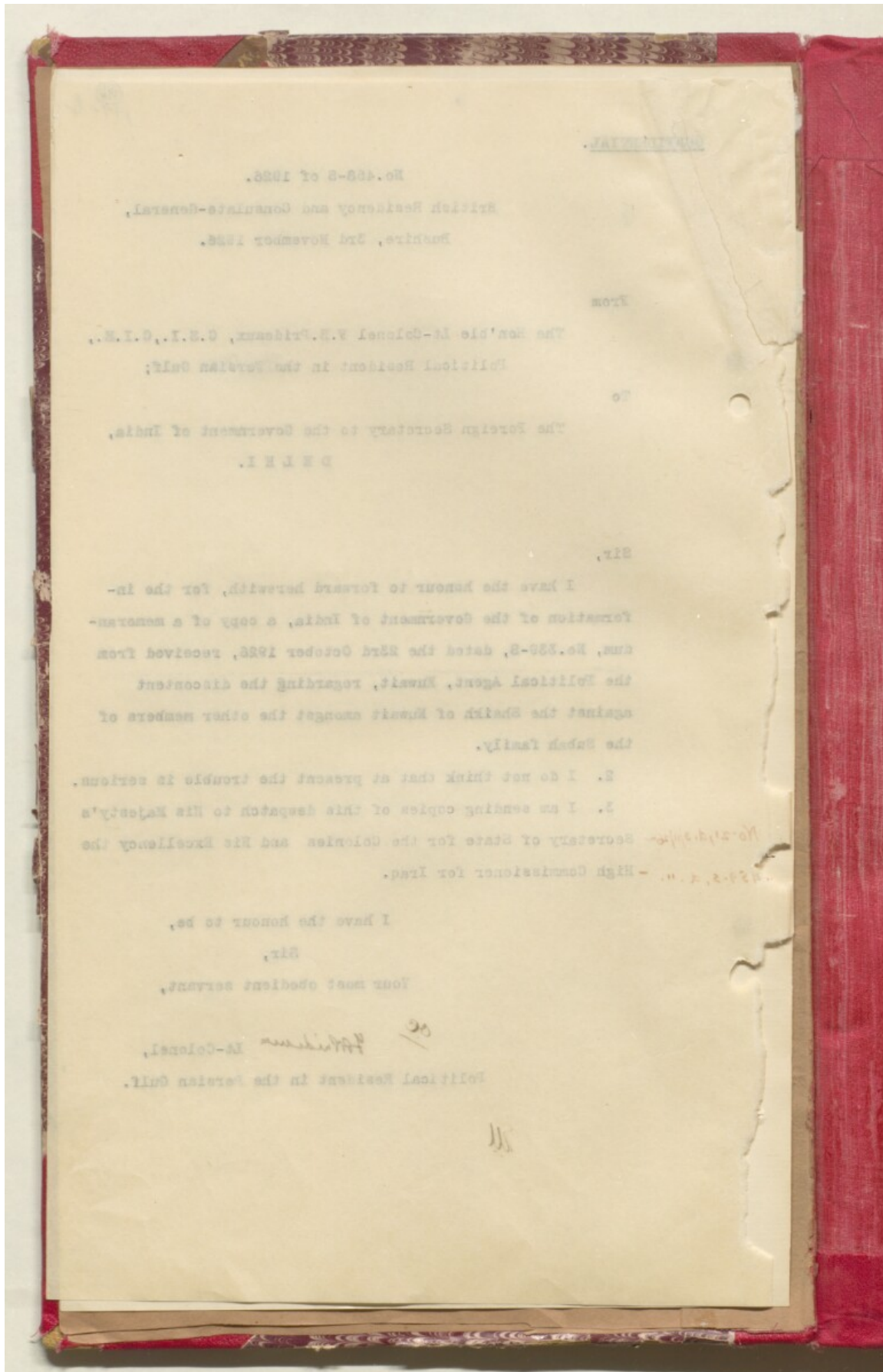
I have the honour to be,

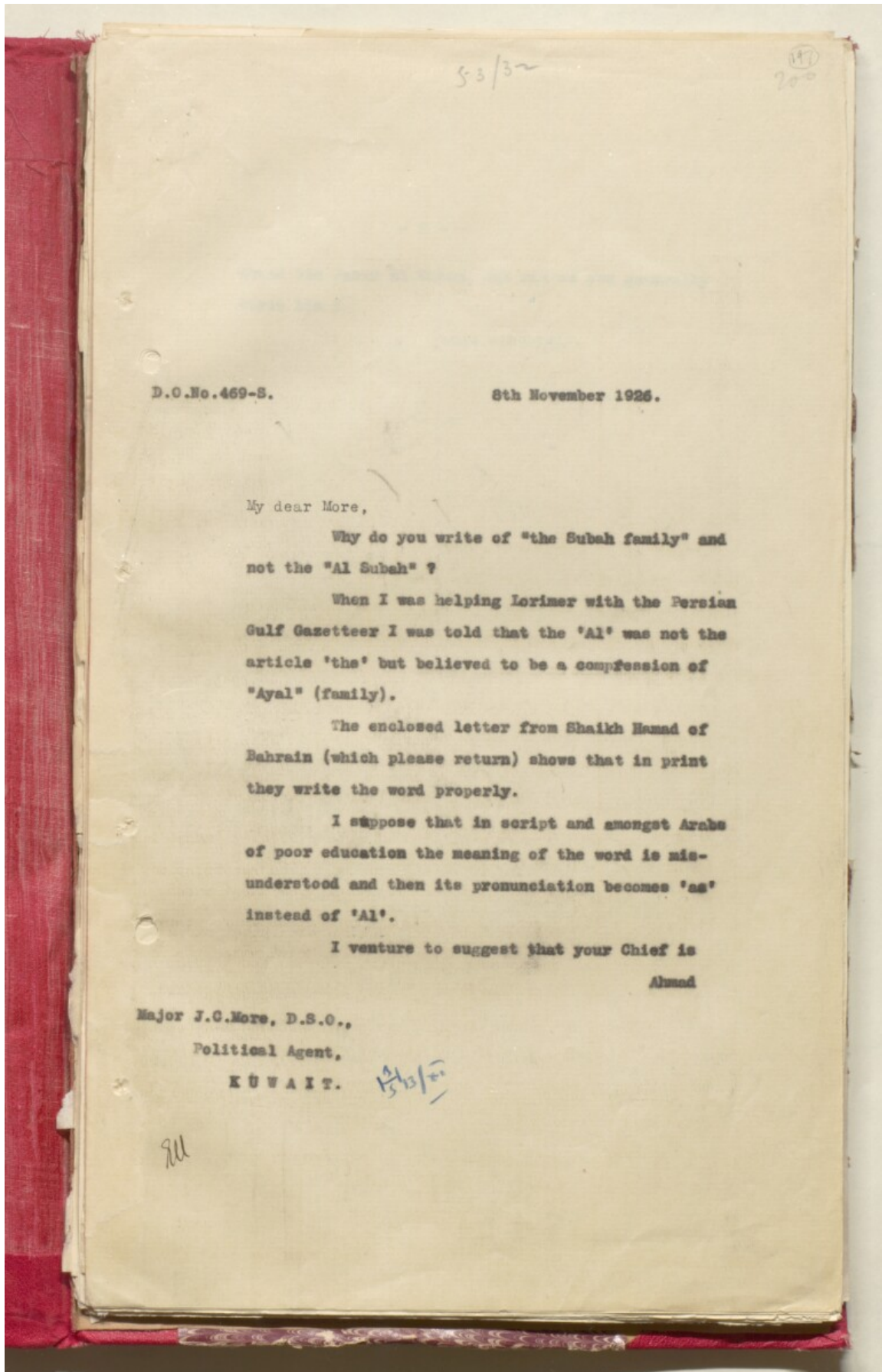
Sir,

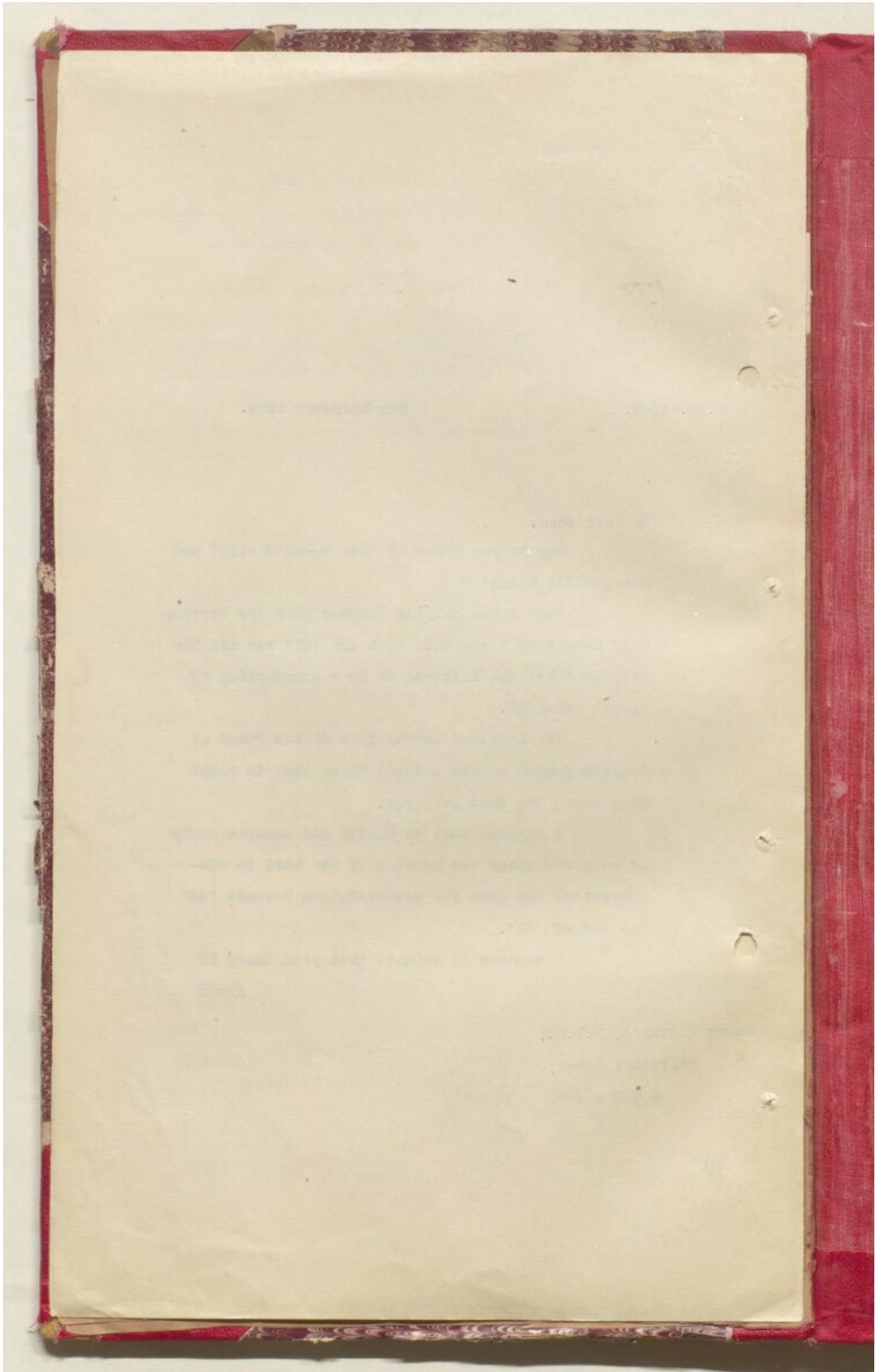
Your most obedient servant,

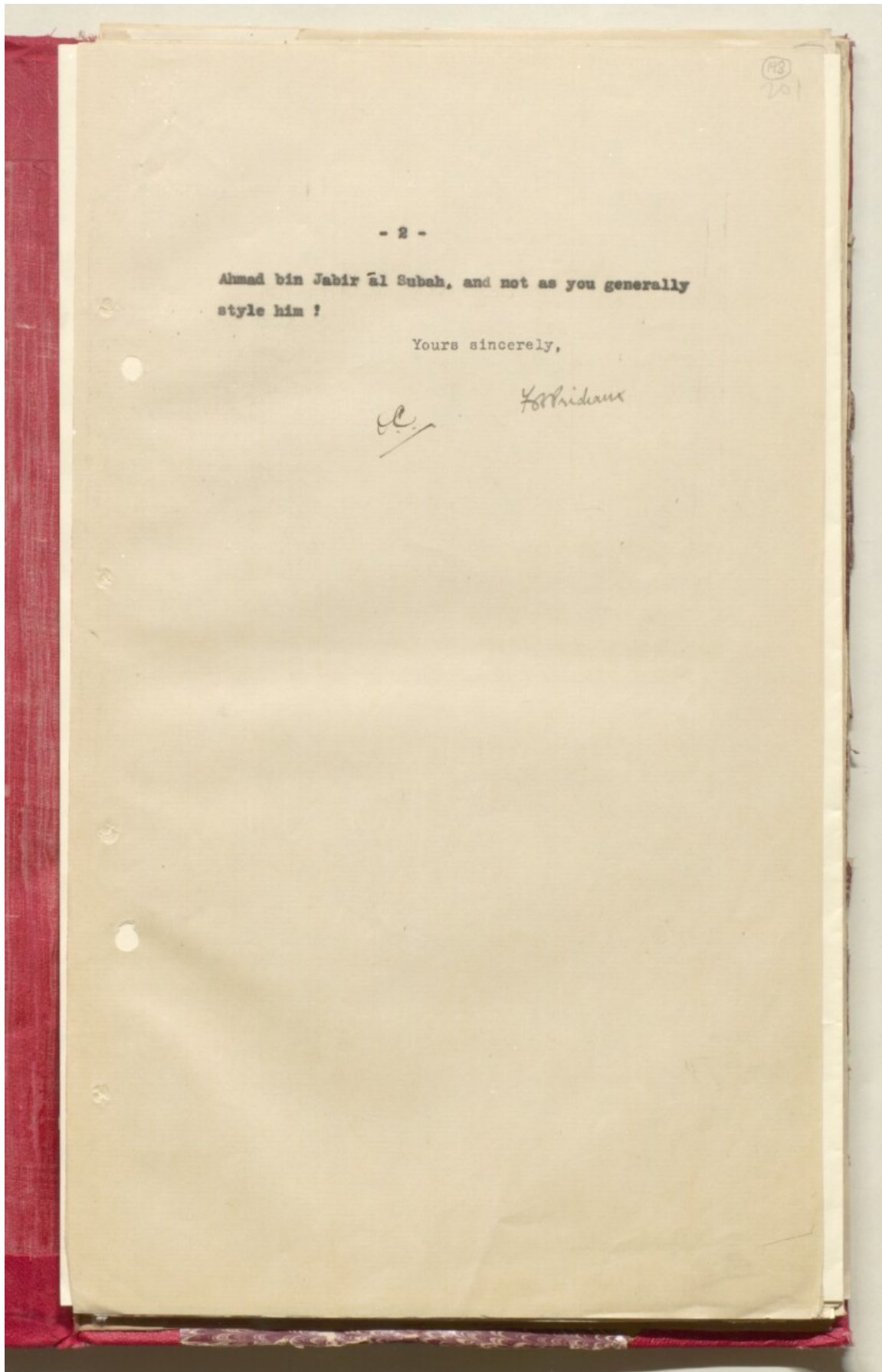
OC
F.B. Prideaux Lt-Colonel,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

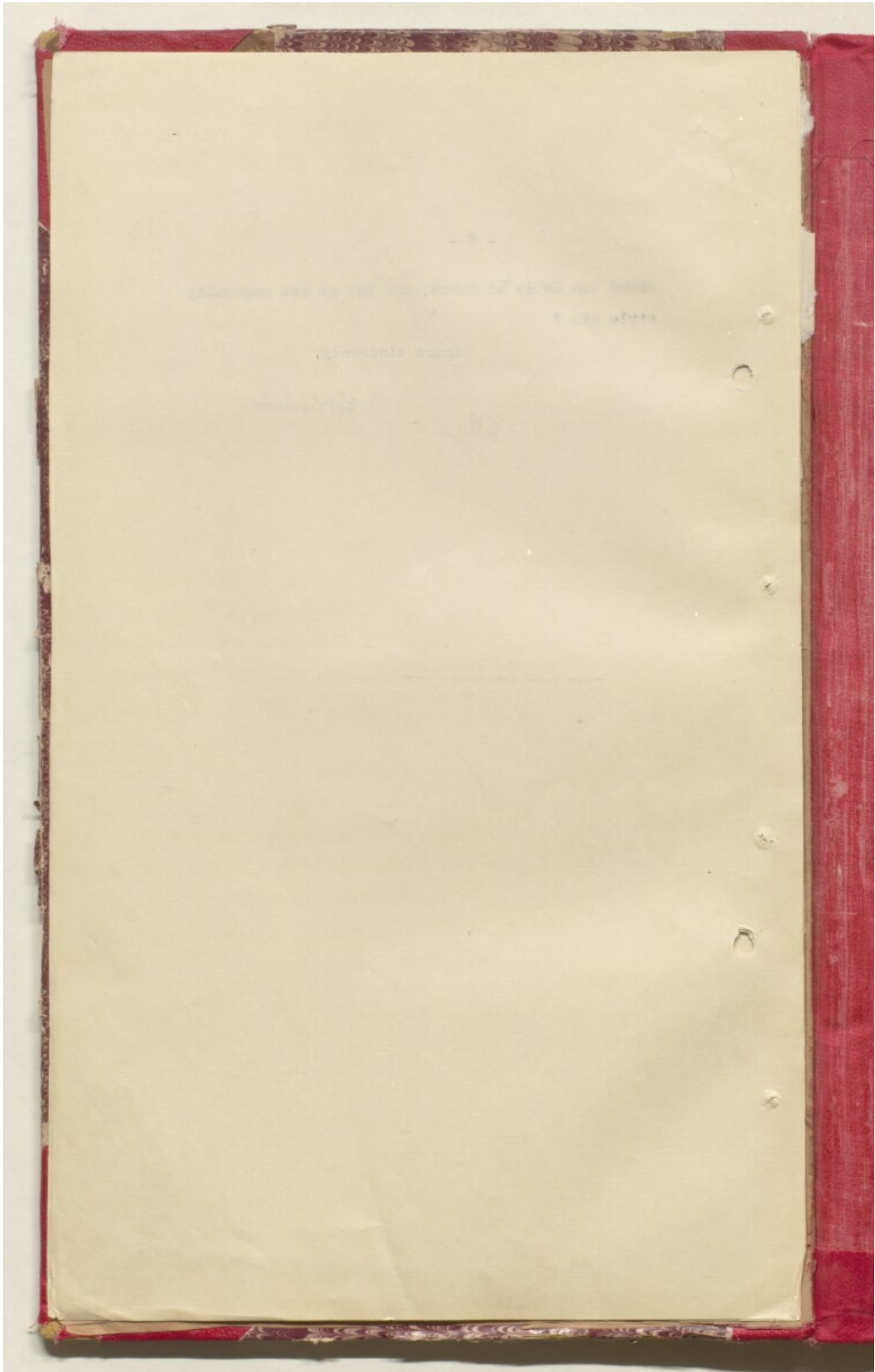
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CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 356-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
10 th November 1926.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 1036
Date 18/11/26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Administrative Inspector,
Muntafiq Liwa,
N A S I R I Y A H.

Mares.

MEMORANDUM.

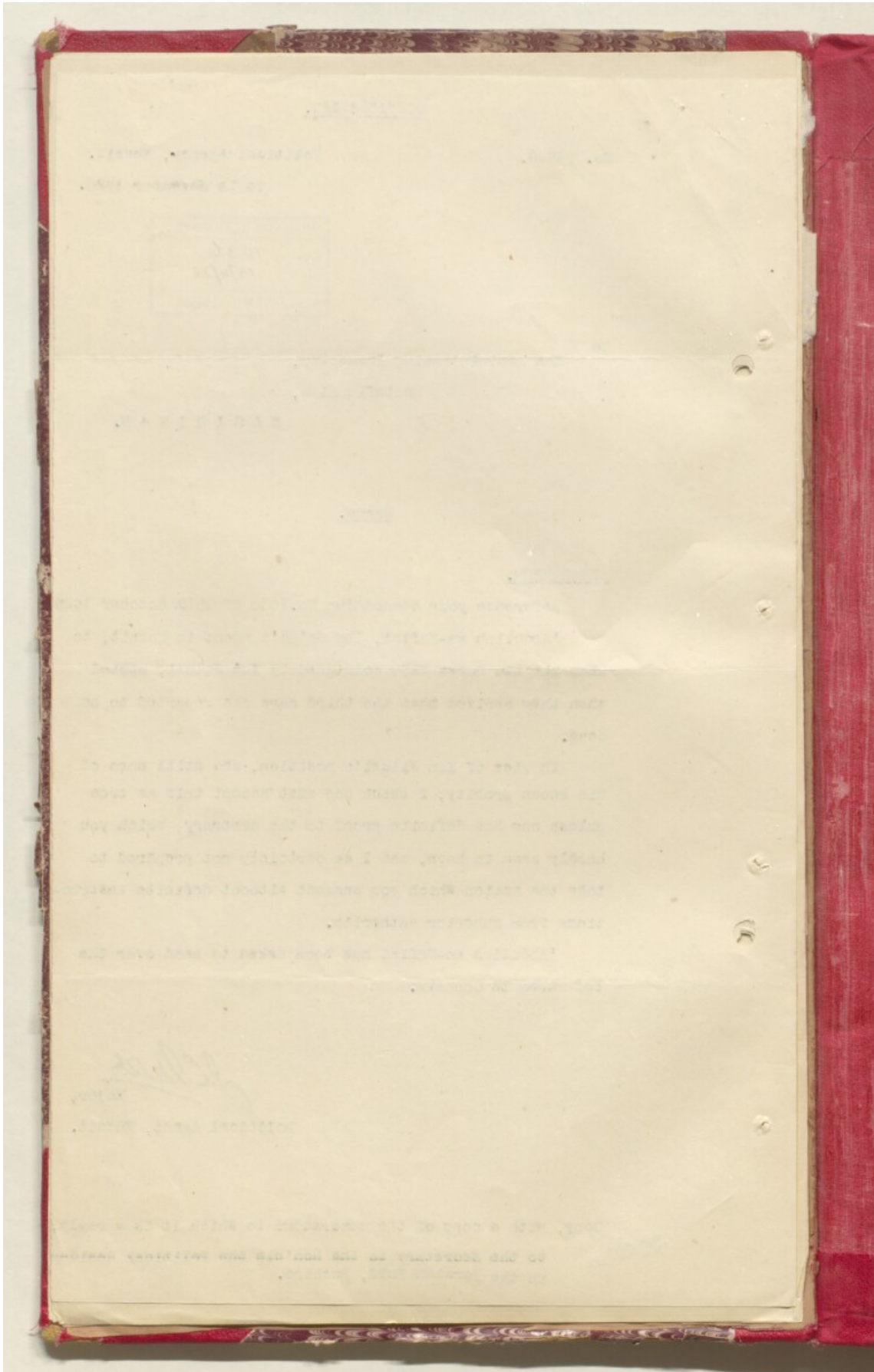
Reference your memorandum No. 1080 of 25th October 1926
'Abdullah an-Nafisi, Ibn Sa'ud's agent in Kuwait, to
whom the two mares were consigned by Ibn Jiluwi, stated
when they arrived that the third mare was reported to be
dead.

In view of Ibn Jiluwi's position, and still more of
his known probity, I think one must accept this as true
unless one has definite proof to the contrary, which you
hardly seem to have, and I am certainly not prepared to
take the action which you suggest without definite instruc-
tions from superior authority.

'Abdullah an-Nafisi has been asked to hand over the
two mares to Ghunaim.

J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

Copy, with a copy of the memorandum to which it is a reply,
to the Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.



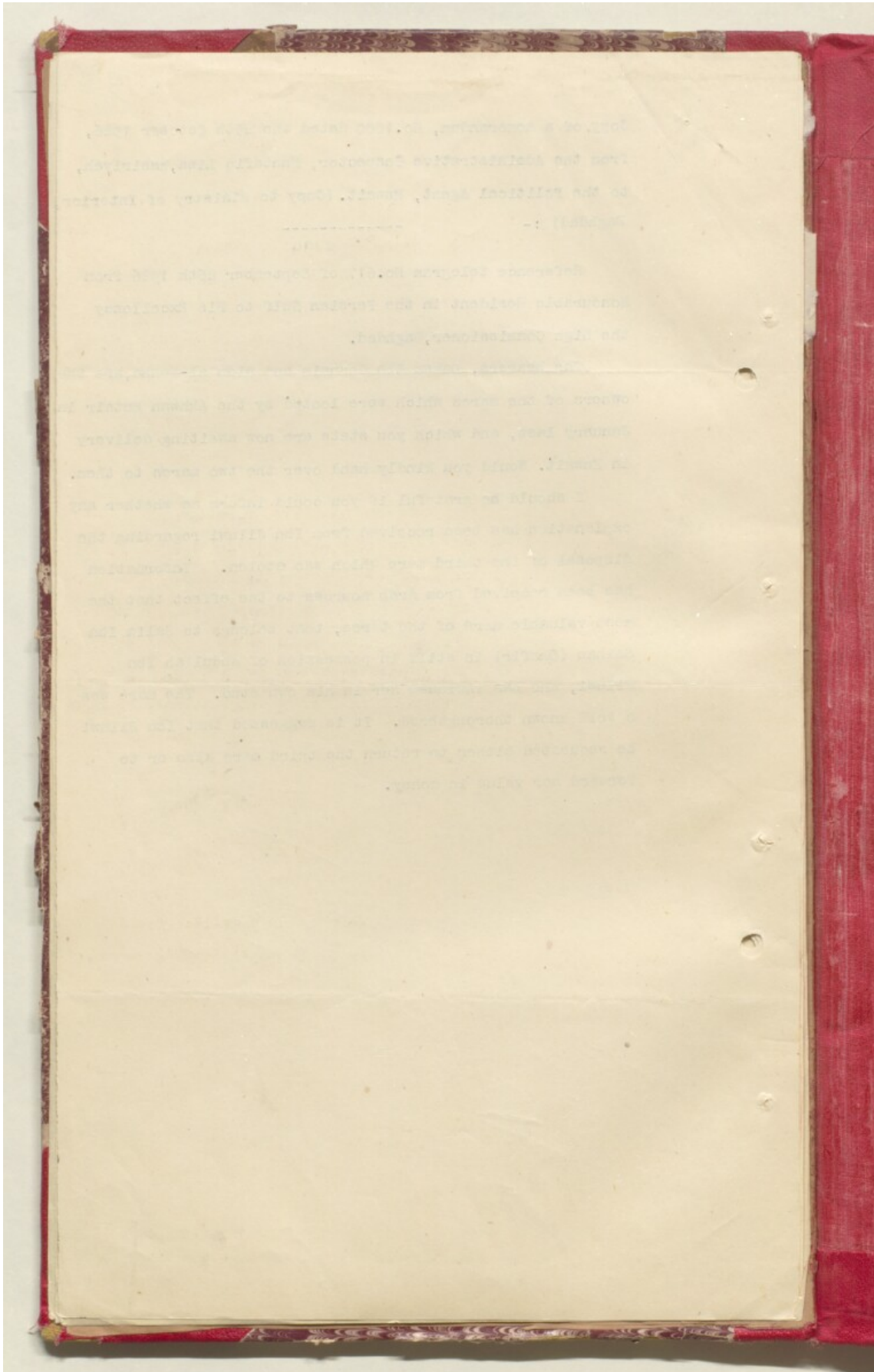


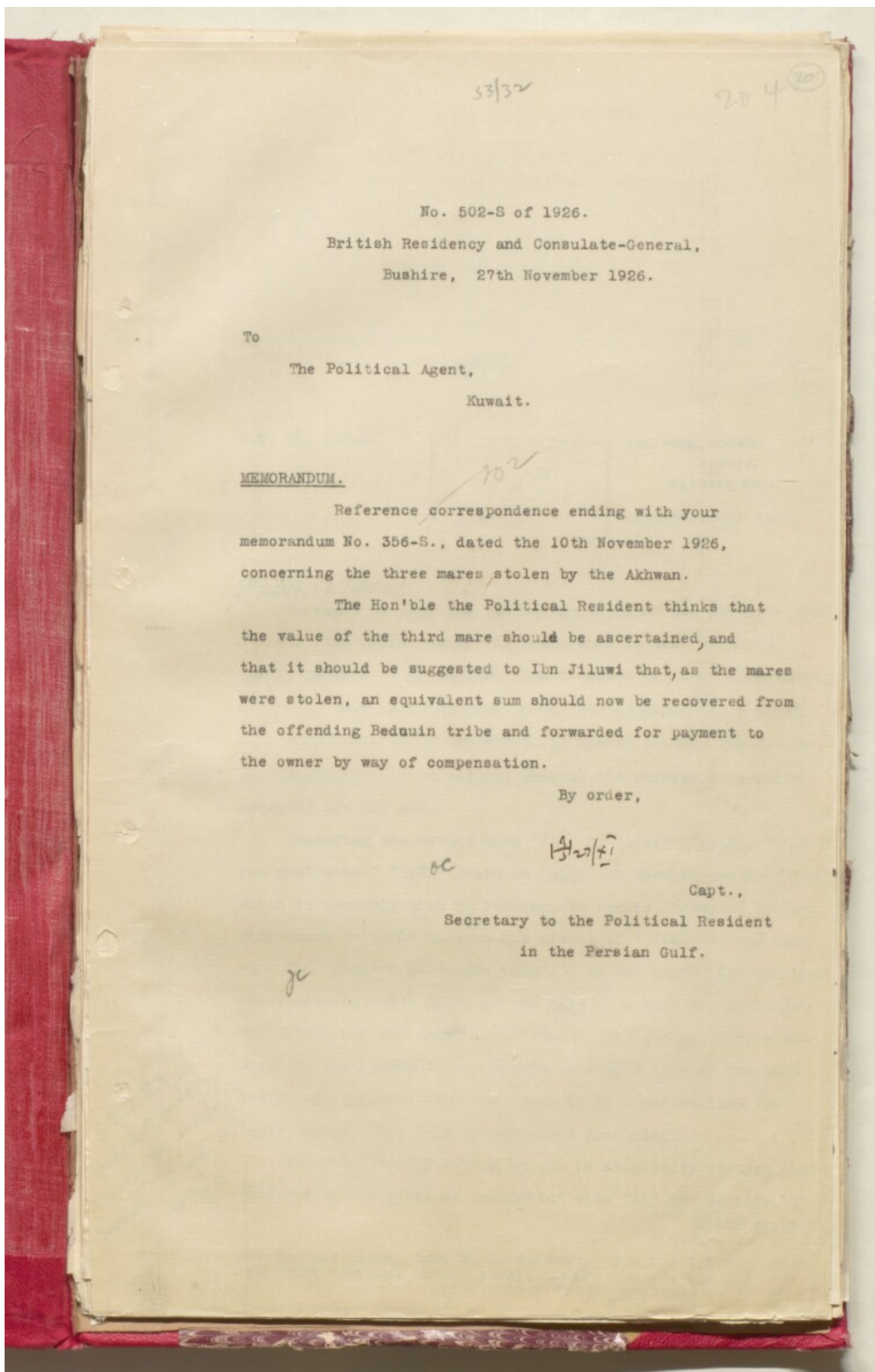
23 250
Copy of a memorandum, No.1080 dated the 25th October 1926,
from the Administrative Inspector, Muntafiq Liwa, Nasiriyah,
to the Political Agent, Kuwait. (Copy to Ministry of Interior,
Baghdad) :-

1914
Reference telegram No.617 of September 26th 1926 from
Honourable Resident in the Persian Gulf to His Excellency
the High Commissioner, Baghdad.

The bearers, Daham Ibn Ghanaim and Ridn al-Wanna, are the
owners of the mares which were looted by the Akhwan Mutair in
January last, and which you state are now awaiting delivery
in Kuwait. Would you kindly hand over the two mares to them.

I should be grateful if you could inform me whether any
explanation has been received from Ibn Jiluwi regarding the
disposal of the third mare which was stolen. Information
has been received from Arab sources to the effect that the
most valuable mare of the three, that belongs to Salim Ibn
Salhan (Dhafir) is still in possession of Abdullah Ibn
Jiluwi, who has included her in his own stud. The mare was
a well known thoroughbred. It is suggested that Ibn Jiluwi
be requested either to return the third mare also or to
forward her value in money.





No. 502-S of 1926.

British Residency and Consulate-General,
Bushire, 27th November 1926.

To

The Political Agent,
Kuwait.

MEMORANDUM.

Reference correspondence ending with your memorandum No. 356-S., dated the 10th November 1926, concerning the three mares stolen by the Akhwan.

The Hon'ble the Political Resident thinks that the value of the third mare should be ascertained, and that it should be suggested to Ibn Jiluwi that, as the mares were stolen, an equivalent sum should now be recovered from the offending Beduin tribe and forwarded for payment to the owner by way of compensation.

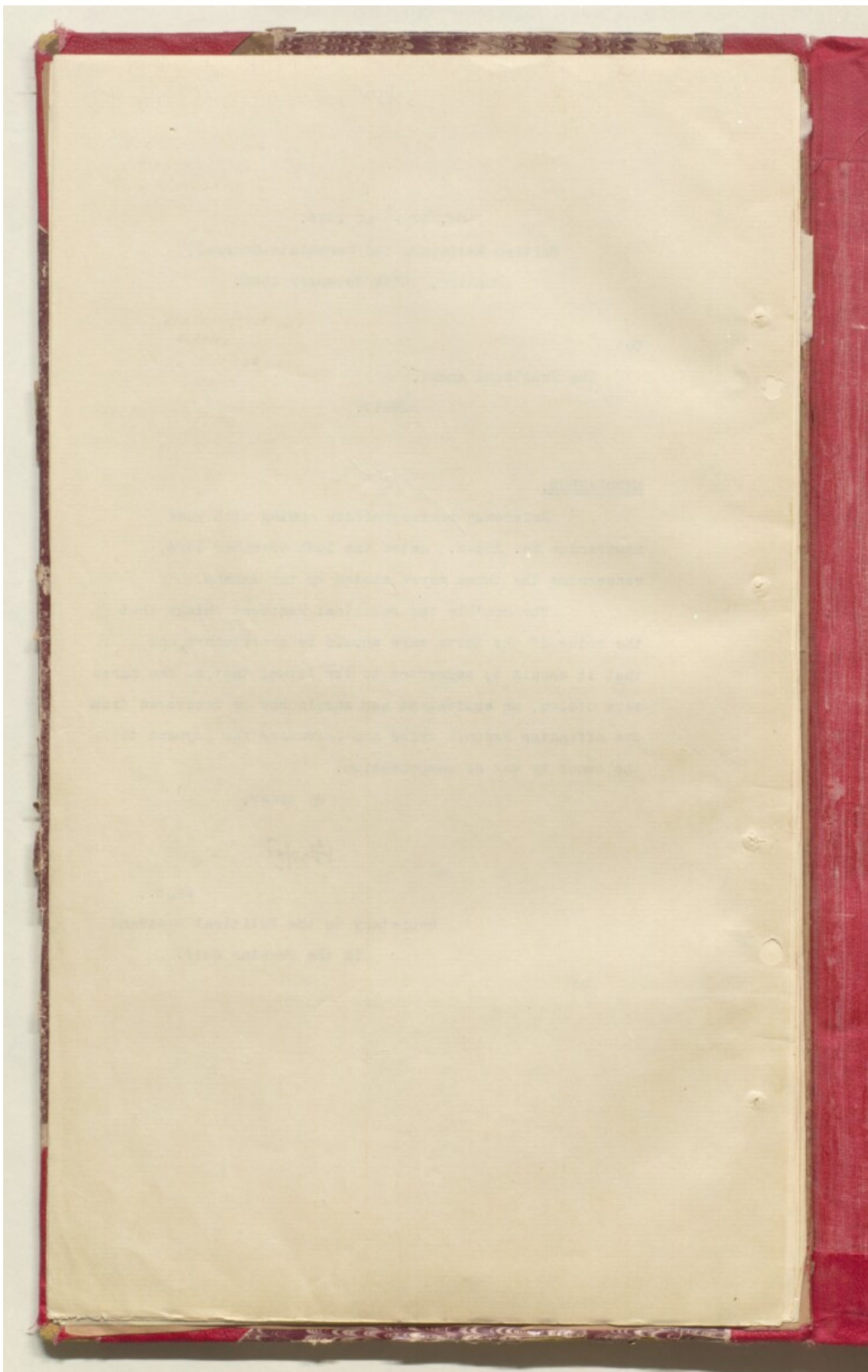
By order,

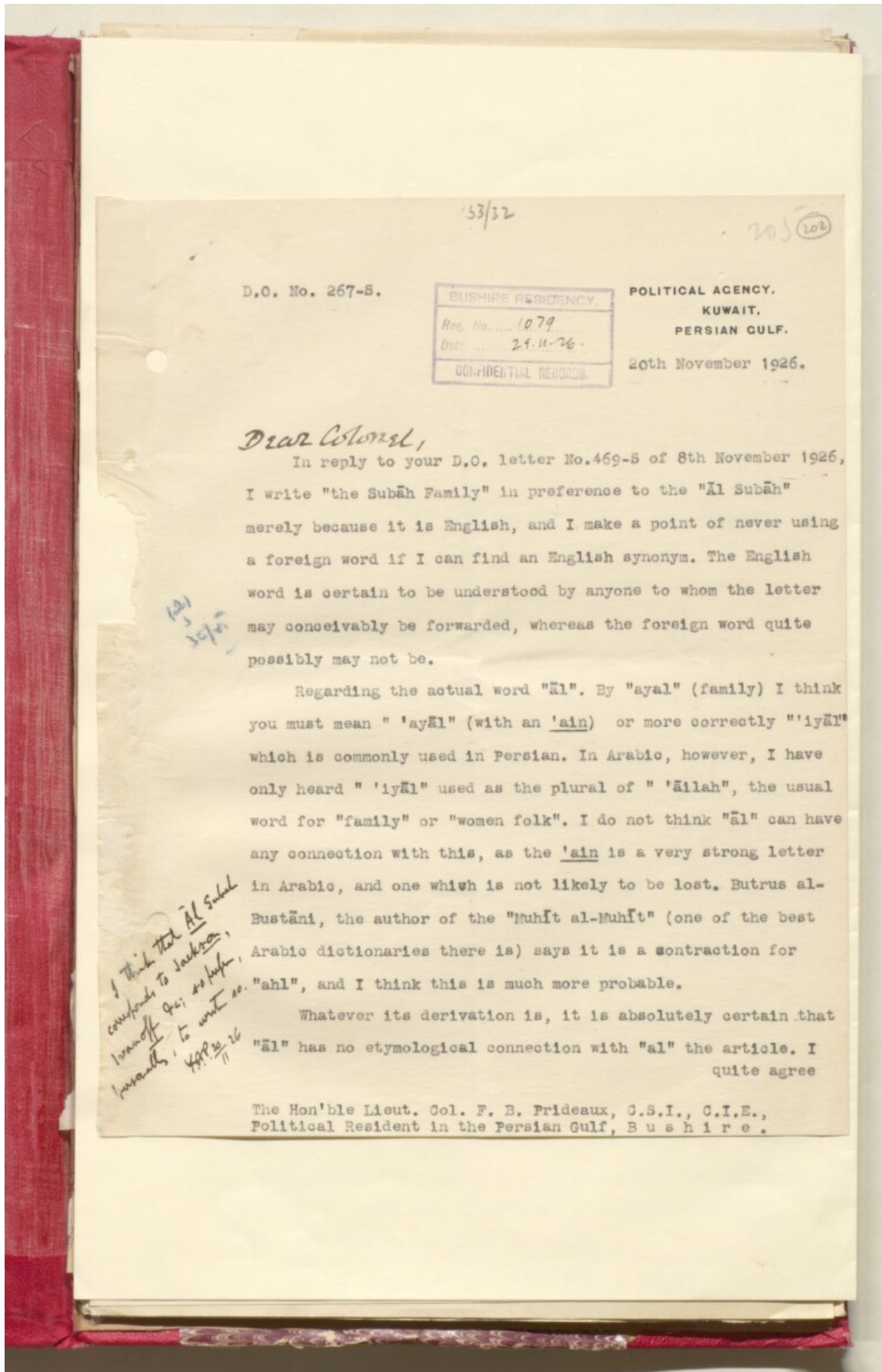
OC 14/27/21

Capt.,

Secretary to the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf.

je





D.O. No. 267-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg. No.	1079
Date	29.11.26
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.	

POLITICAL AGENCY.
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

20th November 1926.

Dear Colonel,

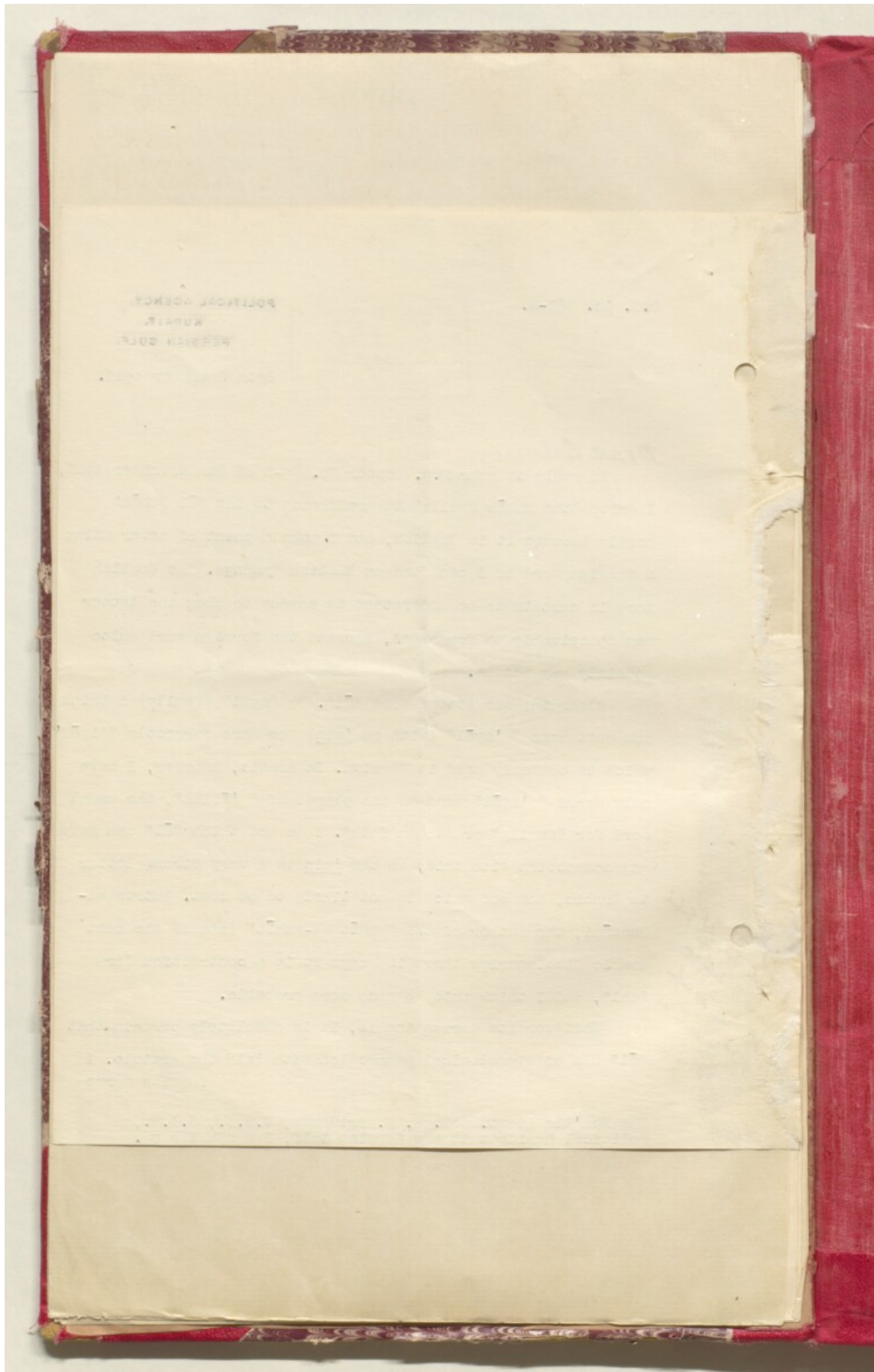
In reply to your D.O. letter No. 469-S of 8th November 1926, I write "the Subāh Family" in preference to the "Āl Subāh" merely because it is English, and I make a point of never using a foreign word if I can find an English synonym. The English word is certain to be understood by anyone to whom the letter may conceivably be forwarded, whereas the foreign word quite possibly may not be.

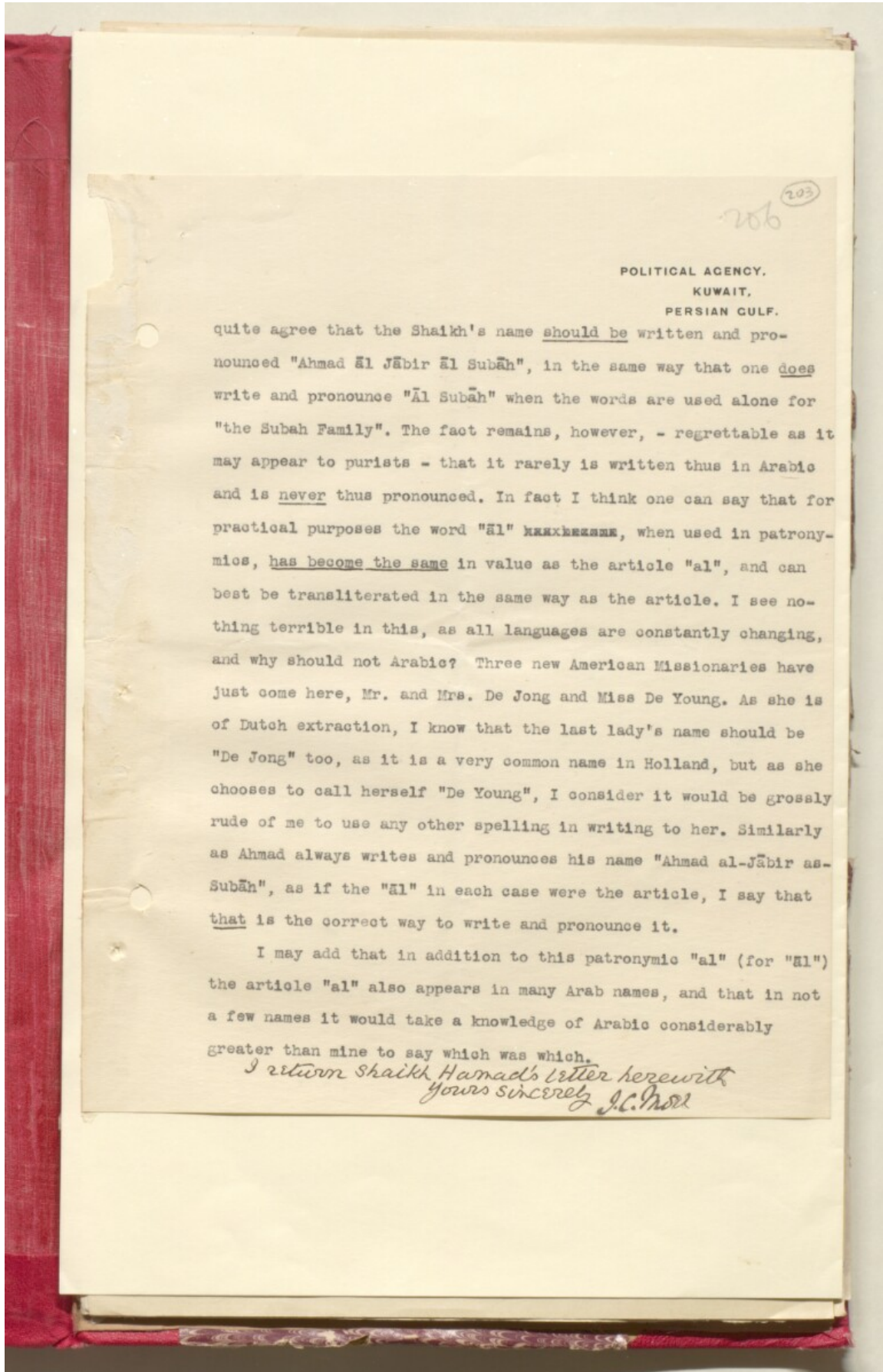
Regarding the actual word "Āl". By "ayal" (family) I think you must mean " 'ayĀl" (with an 'ain) or more correctly " 'iyĀl" which is commonly used in Persian. In Arabic, however, I have only heard " 'iyĀl" used as the plural of " 'Āilah", the usual word for "family" or "women folk". I do not think "Āl" can have any connection with this, as the 'ain is a very strong letter in Arabic, and one which is not likely to be lost. Butrus al-Bustāni, the author of the "Muhīt al-Muhīt" (one of the best Arabic dictionaries there is) says it is a contraction for "ahl", and I think this is much more probable.

Whatever its derivation is, it is absolutely certain that "Āl" has no etymological connection with "al" the article. I quite agree

The Hon'ble Lieut. Col. F. B. Prideaux, C.S.I., C.I.E.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, B u s h i r e .

*I think that Āl Subāh
corresponds to Jackson,
Lorantoff & Co. as before,
henceforth to write so.
H.B.P. 26/11/26*



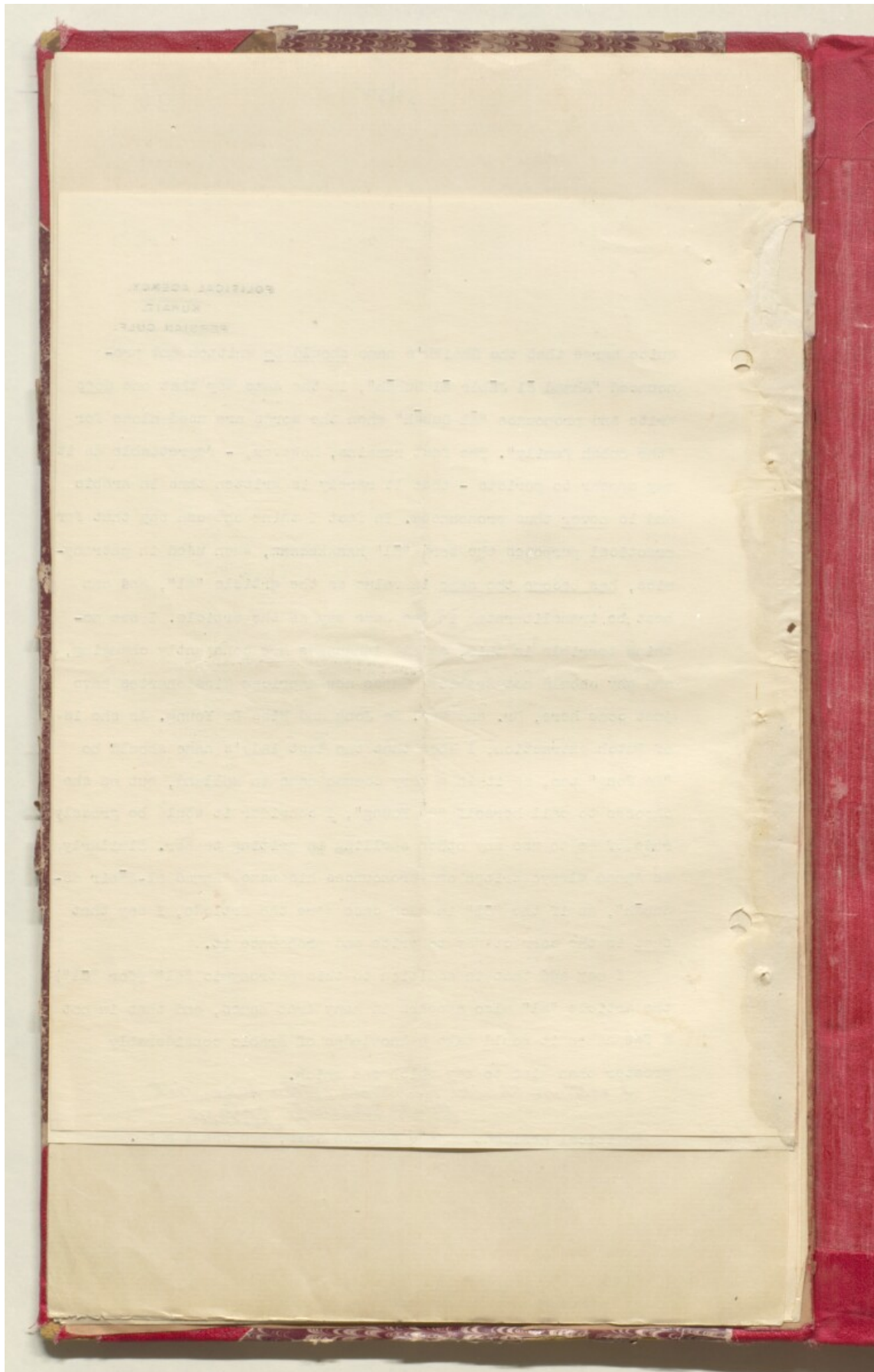


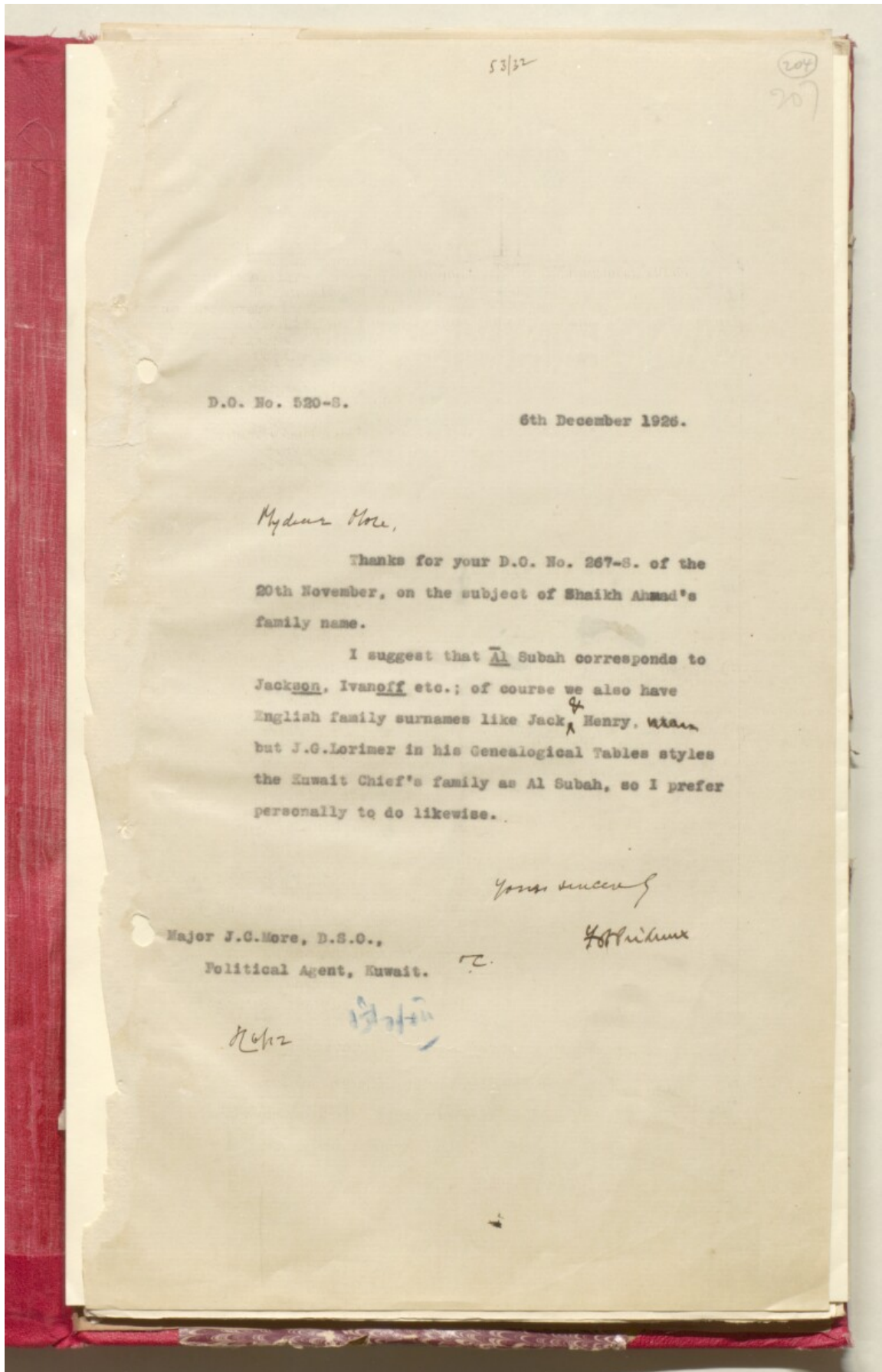
POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.

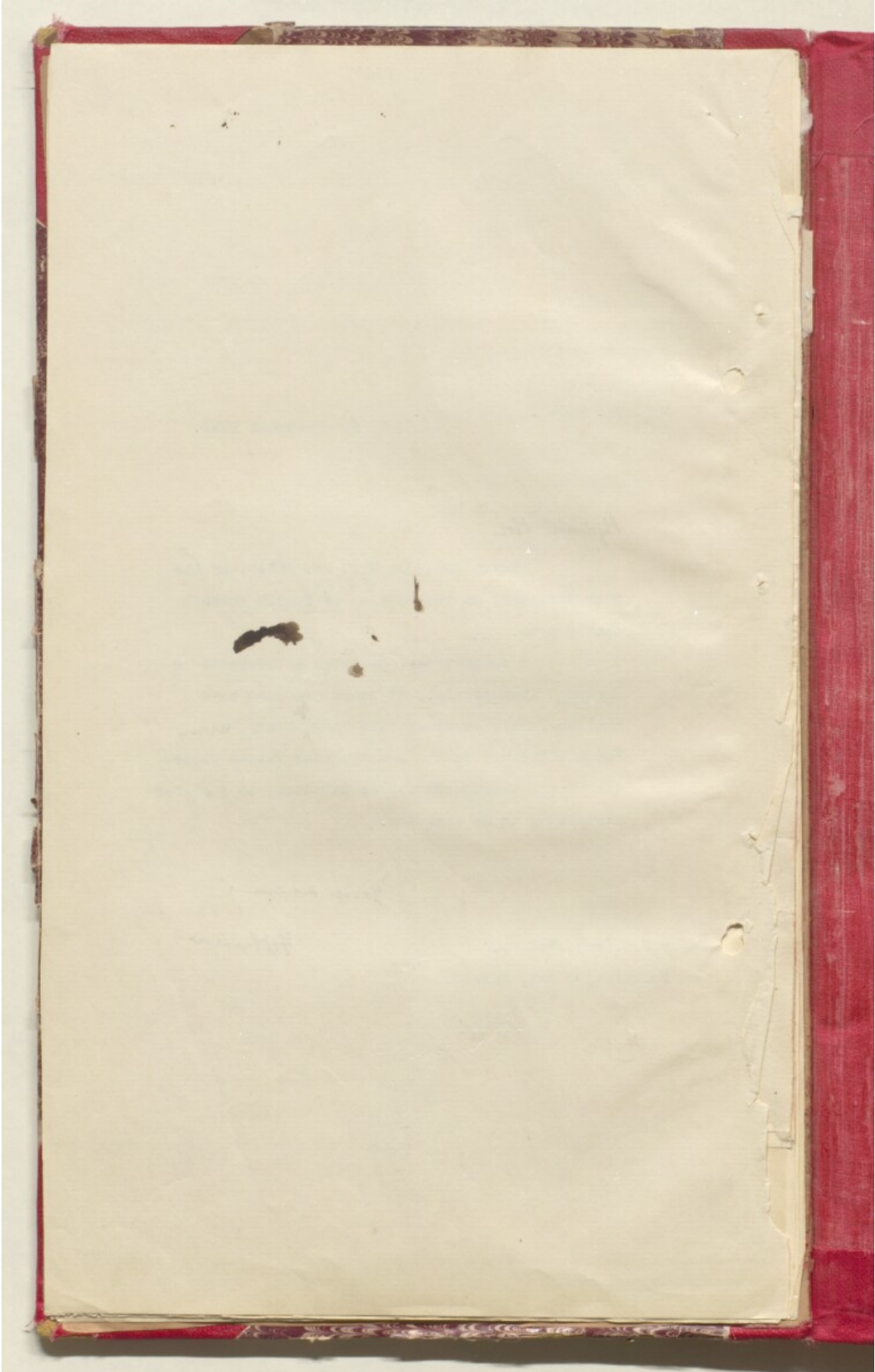
quite agree that the Shaikh's name should be written and pronounced "Ahmad āl Jābir āl Subāh", in the same way that one does write and pronounce "āl Subāh" when the words are used alone for "the Subah Family". The fact remains, however, - regrettable as it may appear to purists - that it rarely is written thus in Arabic and is never thus pronounced. In fact I think one can say that for practical purposes the word "āl" ~~xxxxxxxx~~, when used in patronymics, has become the same in value as the article "al", and can best be transliterated in the same way as the article. I see nothing terrible in this, as all languages are constantly changing, and why should not Arabic? Three new American Missionaries have just come here, Mr. and Mrs. De Jong and Miss De Young. As she is of Dutch extraction, I know that the last lady's name should be "De Jong" too, as it is a very common name in Holland, but as she chooses to call herself "De Young", I consider it would be grossly rude of me to use any other spelling in writing to her. Similarly as Ahmad always writes and pronounces his name "Ahmad al-Jābir al-Subāh", as if the "āl" in each case were the article, I say that that is the correct way to write and pronounce it.

I may add that in addition to this patronymic "al" (for "āl") the article "al" also appears in many Arab names, and that in not a few names it would take a knowledge of Arabic considerably greater than mine to say which was which.

*I return Shaikh Hamad's letter herewith
yours sincerely J.C. Noel*









125

CONFIDENTIAL.

Copy of a memorandum, No. S/44 dated the 2nd February 1927, from the Administrative Inspector, Basrah Liwa, Basrah, to the Political Agent, Kuwait:-

There is a rumour current in the local bazaars that His Majesty's Government have addressed a note to Shaikh Ahmad al-Mubarak, in which he is given the choice of accepting the suzerainty of either the Government of India, the Government of 'Iraq or Ibn Sa'ud.

It is further rumoured that the Shaikh has been given six months in which to consider the proposal, and that he has opened negotiations with Ibn Sa'ud.

No. 35-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.	
Reg.	169
D.	24.2.27
RECORDS.	

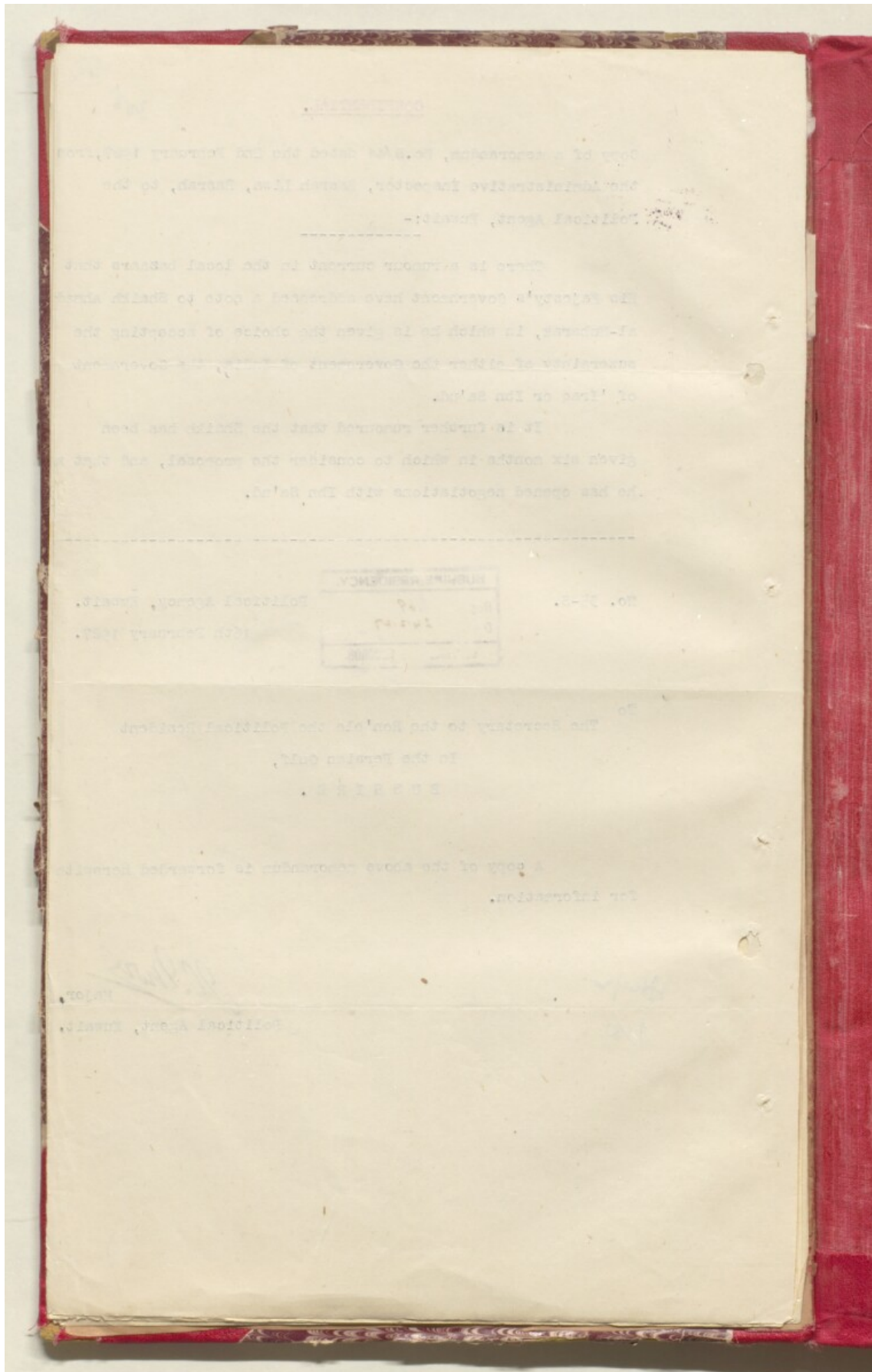
 Political Agency, Kuwait.
16th February 1927.

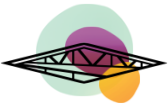
To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
In the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

A copy of the above memorandum is forwarded herewith for information.

J. C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.

H. S. / ~
120.





206 206

CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 46-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
4th March 1927.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY.
Reg. No. 212
Date 9.3.27
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Secretary to the Hon'ble the Political Resident
in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

Mare.

MEMORANDUM.

Reference the correspondence ending with your memorandum No. 502-S dated the 27th November 1926, relative to the mare which, according to Ibn Jiluwi, could not be returned to its owner as it had died.

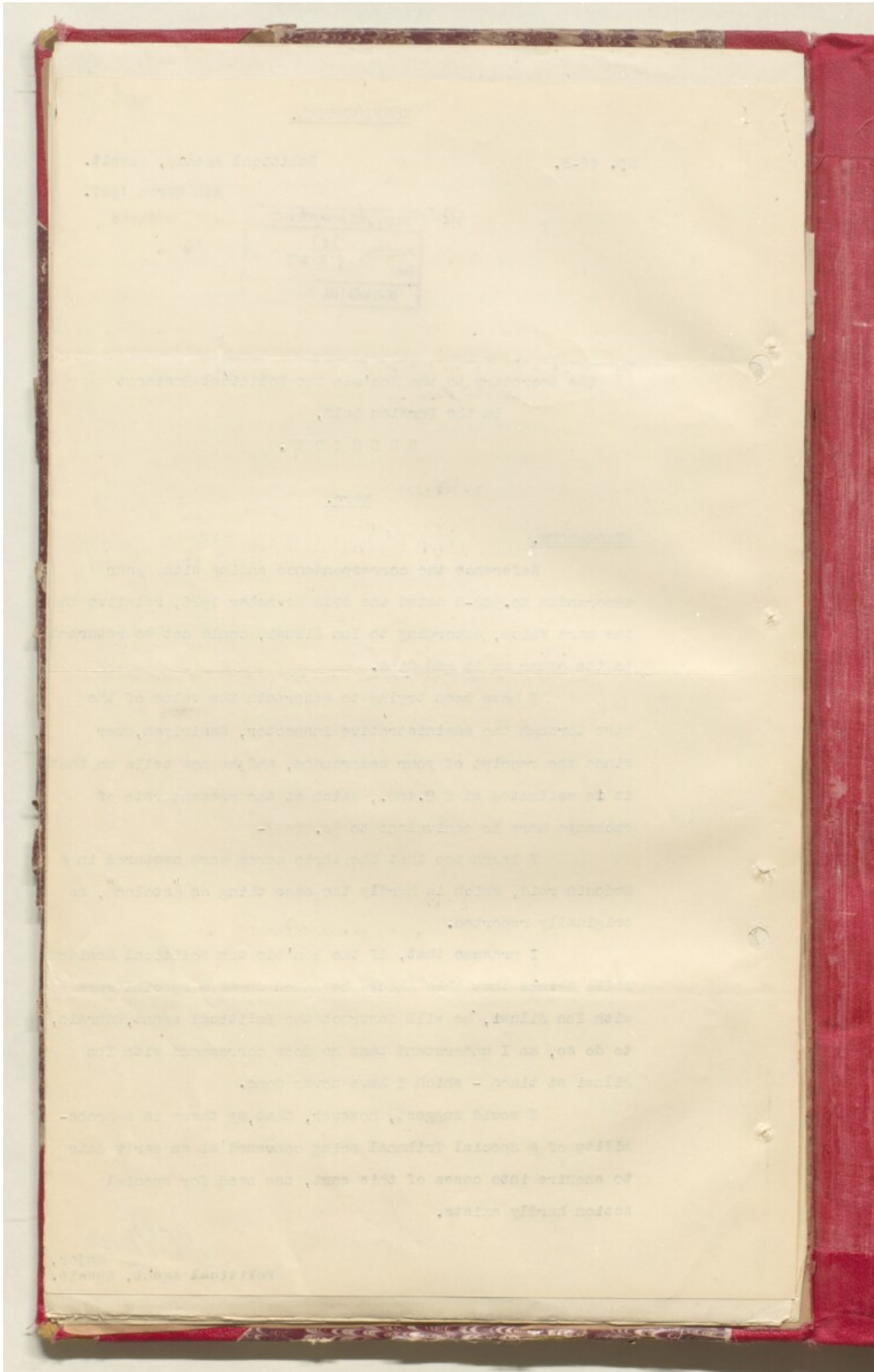
I have been trying to ascertain the value of the mare through the Administrative Inspector, Nasiriyah, ever since the receipt of your memorandum, and he now tells me that it is estimated at £ T.100., which at the present rate of exchange here is equivalent to Rs. 1205/-

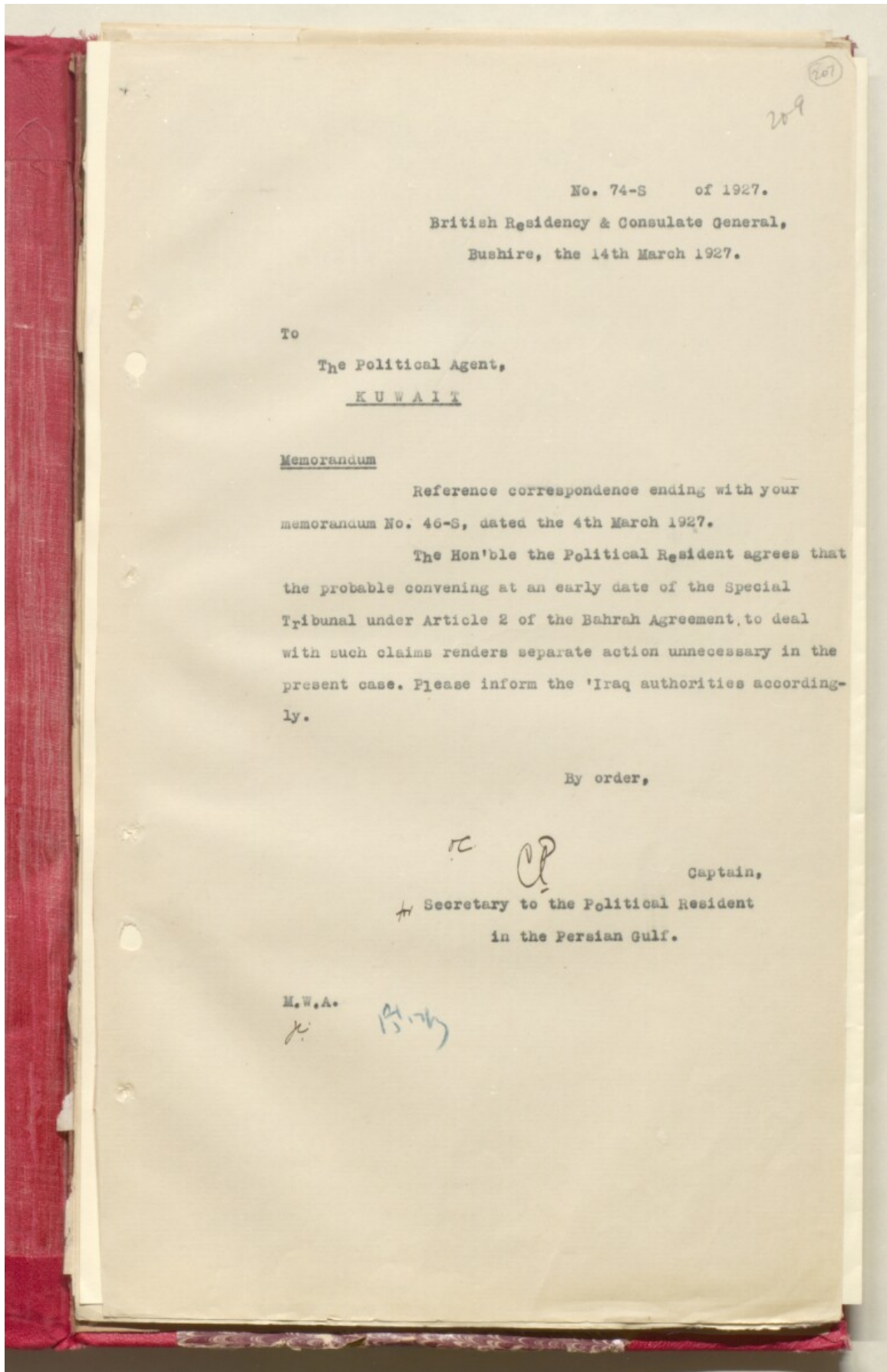
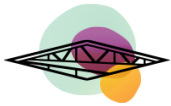
I learn too that the three mares were captured in a Bedouin raid, which is hardly the same thing as "stolen", as originally reported.

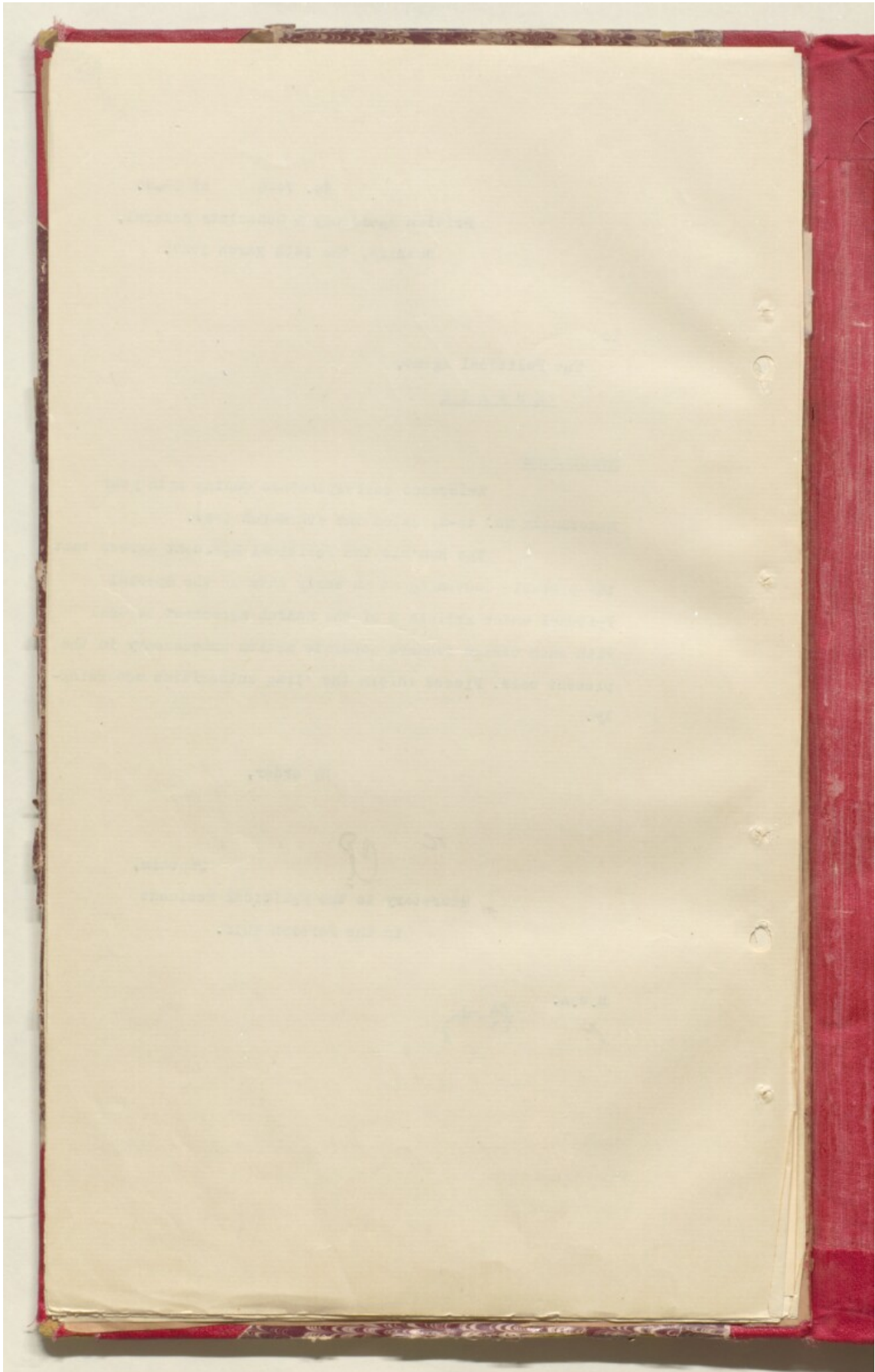
I presume that, if the Hon'ble the Political Resident still thinks that this should be taken up as a special case with Ibn Jiluwi, he will instruct the Political Agent, Bahrain, to do so, as I understand that he does correspond with Ibn Jiluwi at times - which I have never done.

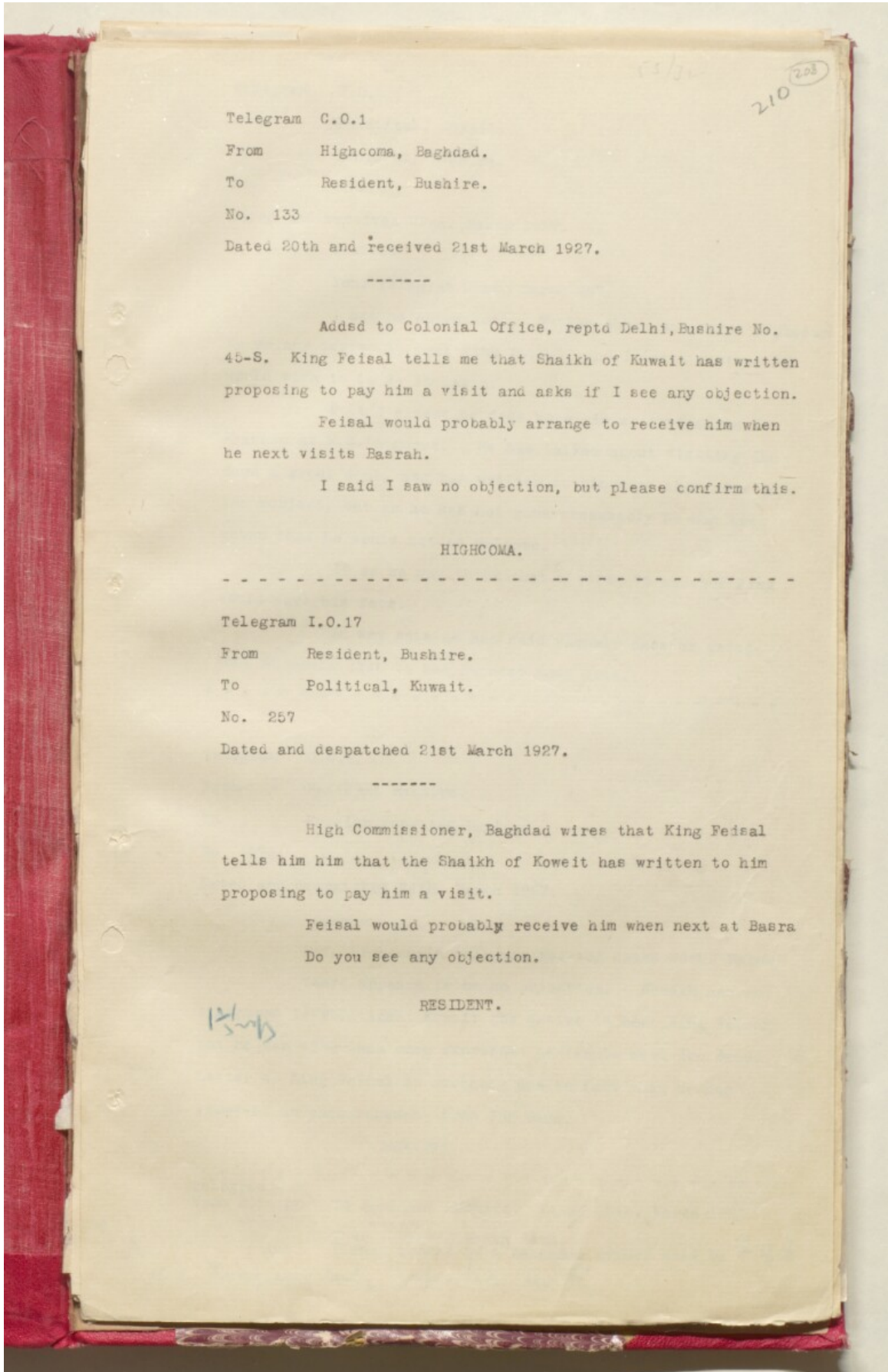
I would suggest, however, that, as there is a probability of a Special Tribunal being convened at an early date to enquire into cases of this sort, the need for special action hardly exists.

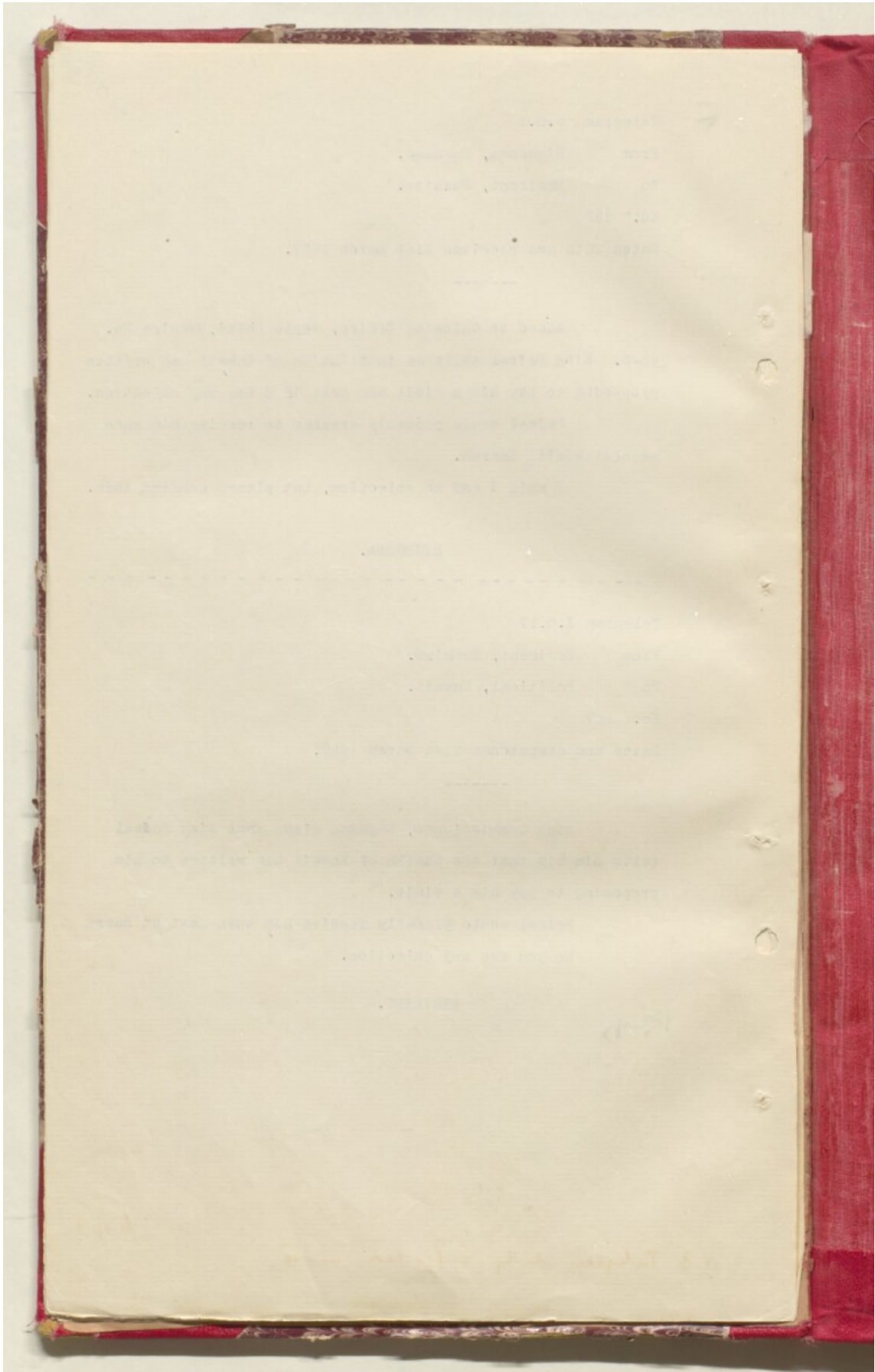
J.C. Moore
Major,
Political Agent, Kuwait.













Telegram I.O.17
From Political, Kuwait.
To Resident, Bushire.
No. 63.
Dated and received 22nd. March 1927.

Your telegram 21st. March 257.

I see no objection. Sheikh Ahmad has never expressed to me any desire to meet King Feisul, and I doubt whether he would wish to do so in Basra.

What I expect he does hope, is an invitation to Baghdad as H.M.'s guest. He has talked about visiting Ibn Saud a great deal, and has written to him more than once on the subject, but as he has not gone presumably he has been shown that he would not be welcome.

If so he may think that a visit to another King would save his face.

In any case he has said vaguely once or twice that he would like to see Baghdad some time.

Telegram C.O.1.
From Resident Bushire.
To Foreign repeated Baghdad.
No 273.
Dated and despatched 24th. March 1927.

Ref. Highcoma's telegram No. 133 dated 20th. March.

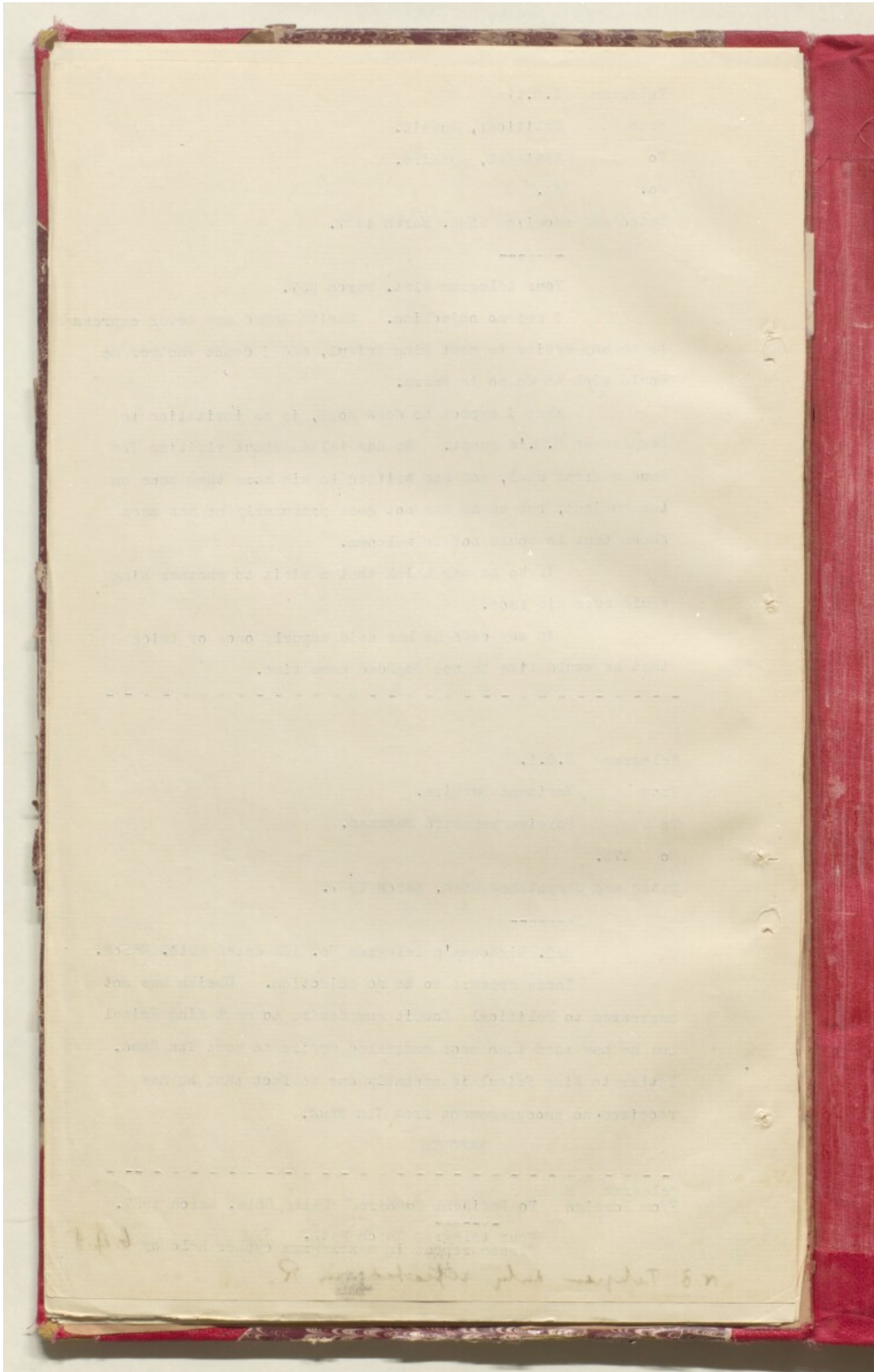
There appears to be no objection. Sheikh has not expressed to Political Koweit any desire to meet King Feisul but he has more than once expressed desire to meet Ibn Saud. Letter to King Feisul is probably due to fact that he has received no encouragement from Ibn Saud.

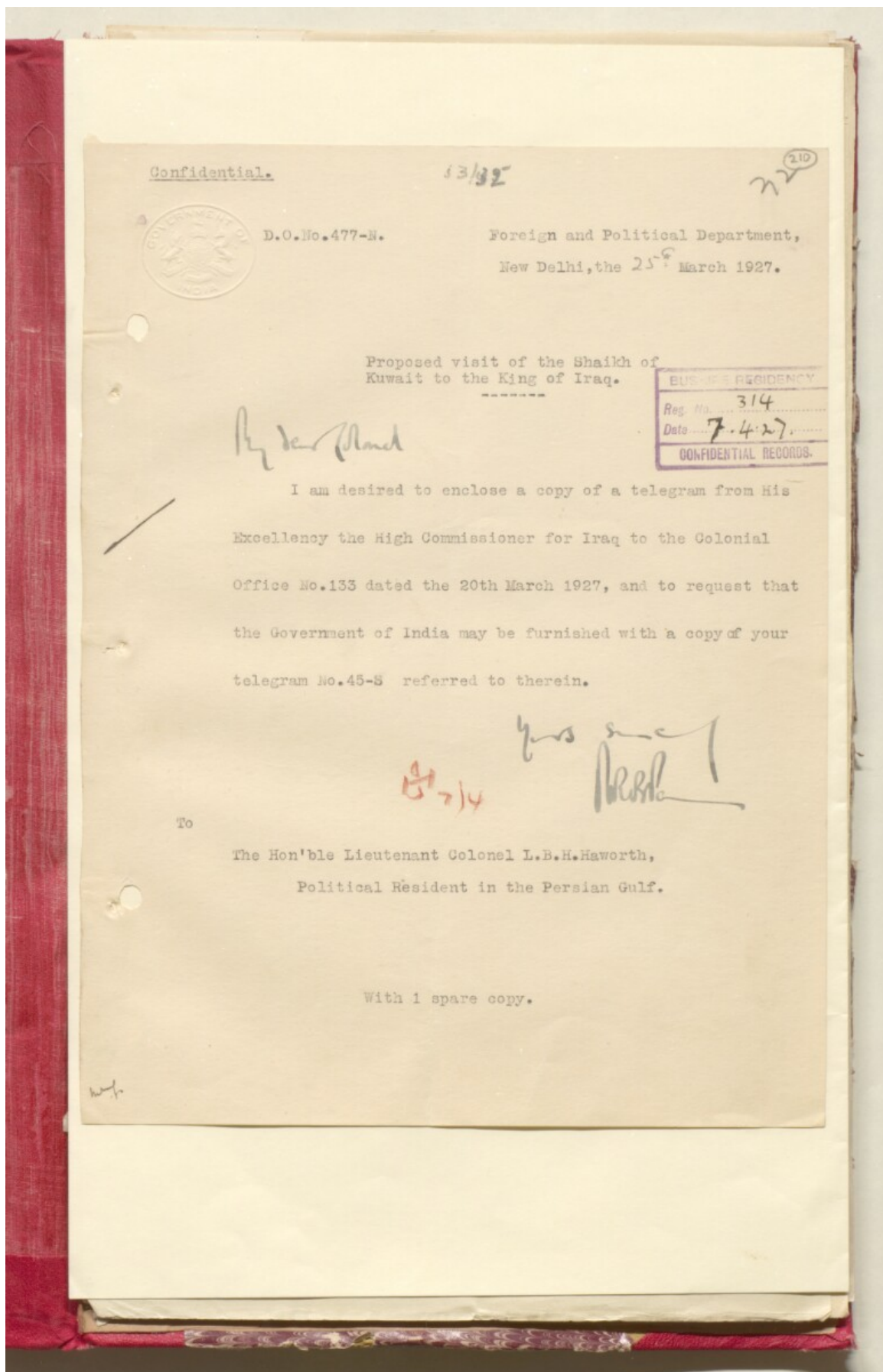
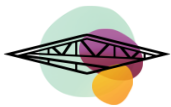
HAWORTH

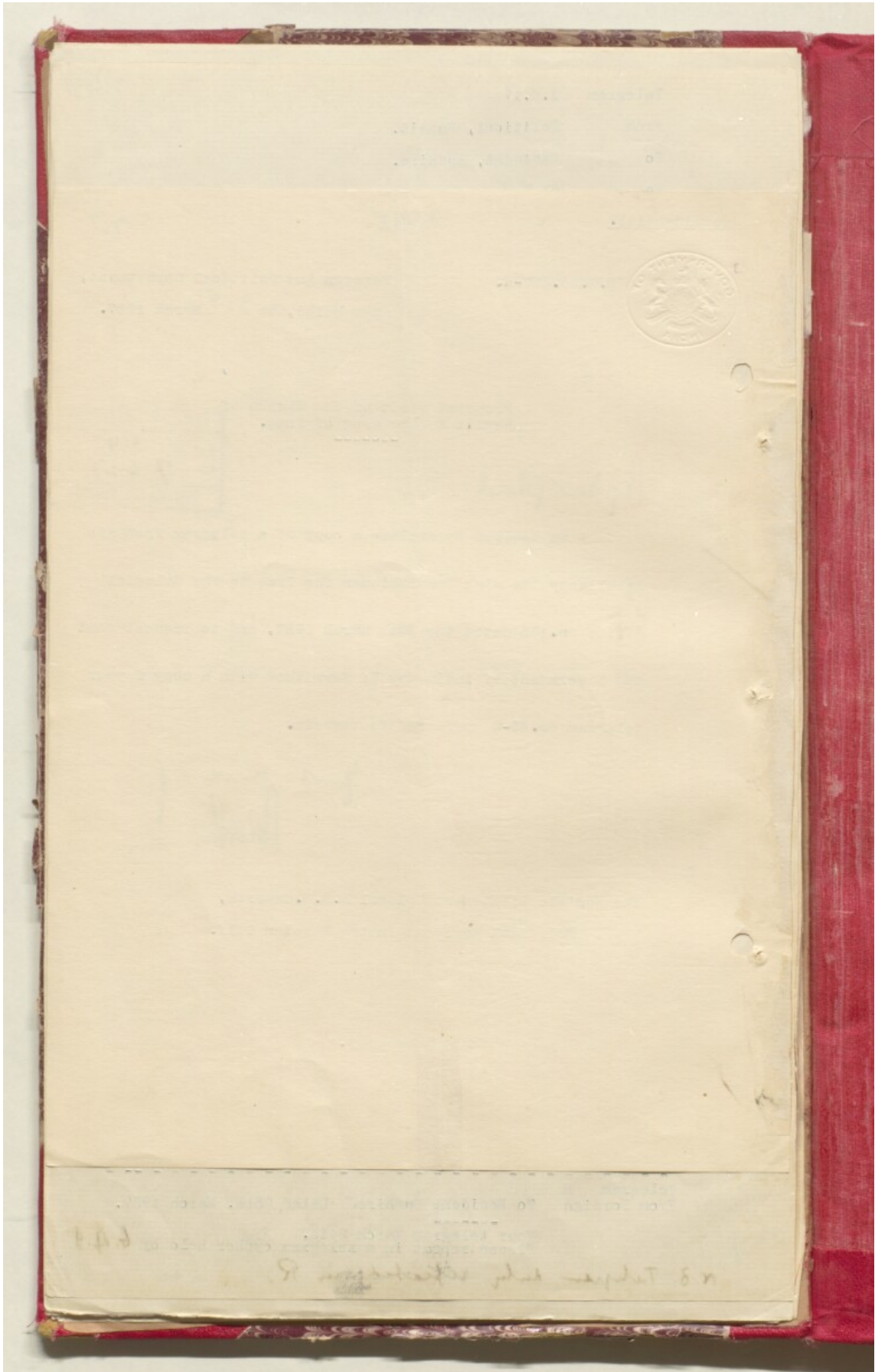
Telegram R
From Foreign To Resident Bushire Dated 25th. March 1927.

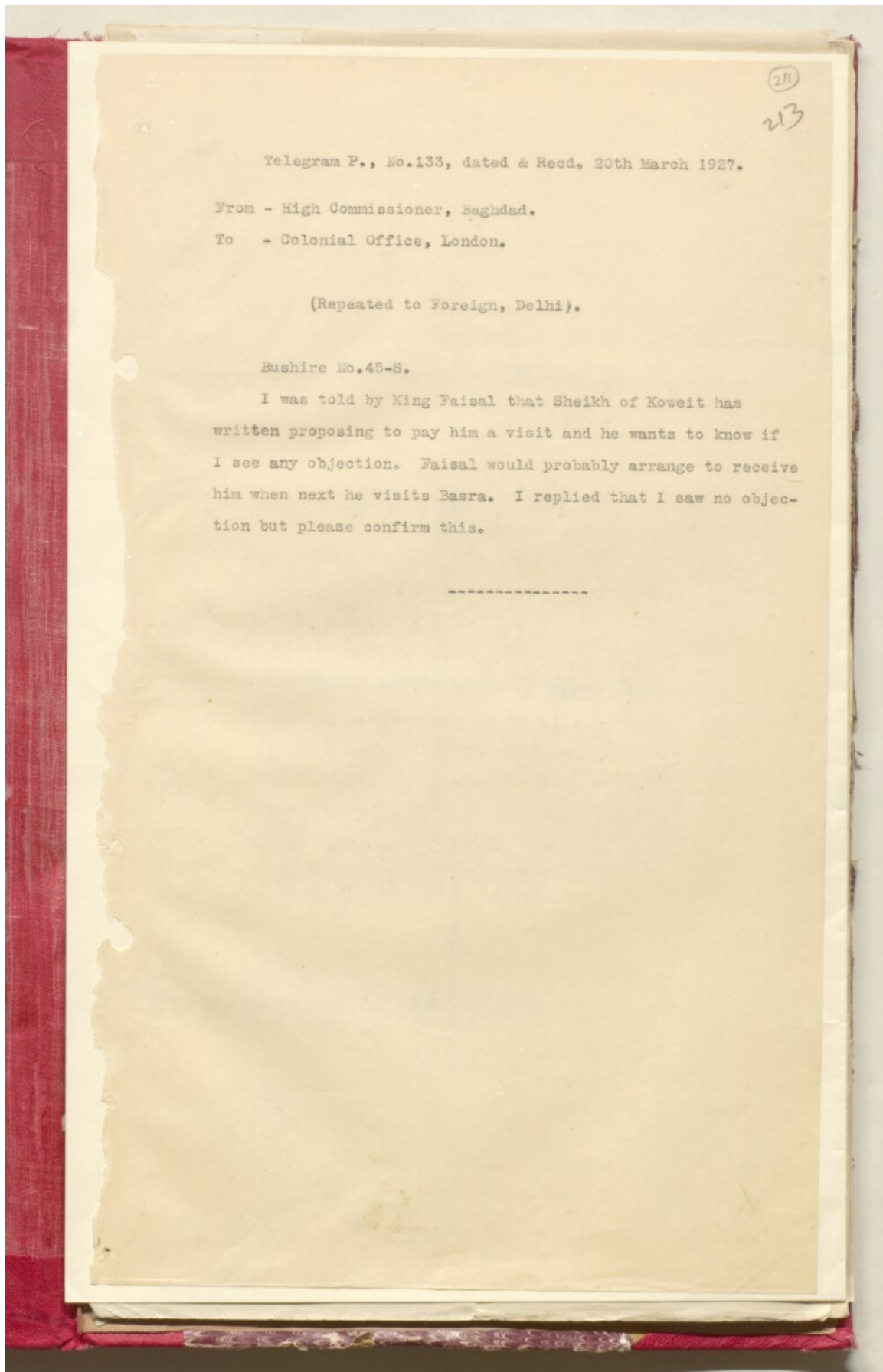
Your telegram March 24th.
Please repeat in a ~~telegram~~ cypher held by G.D.G.

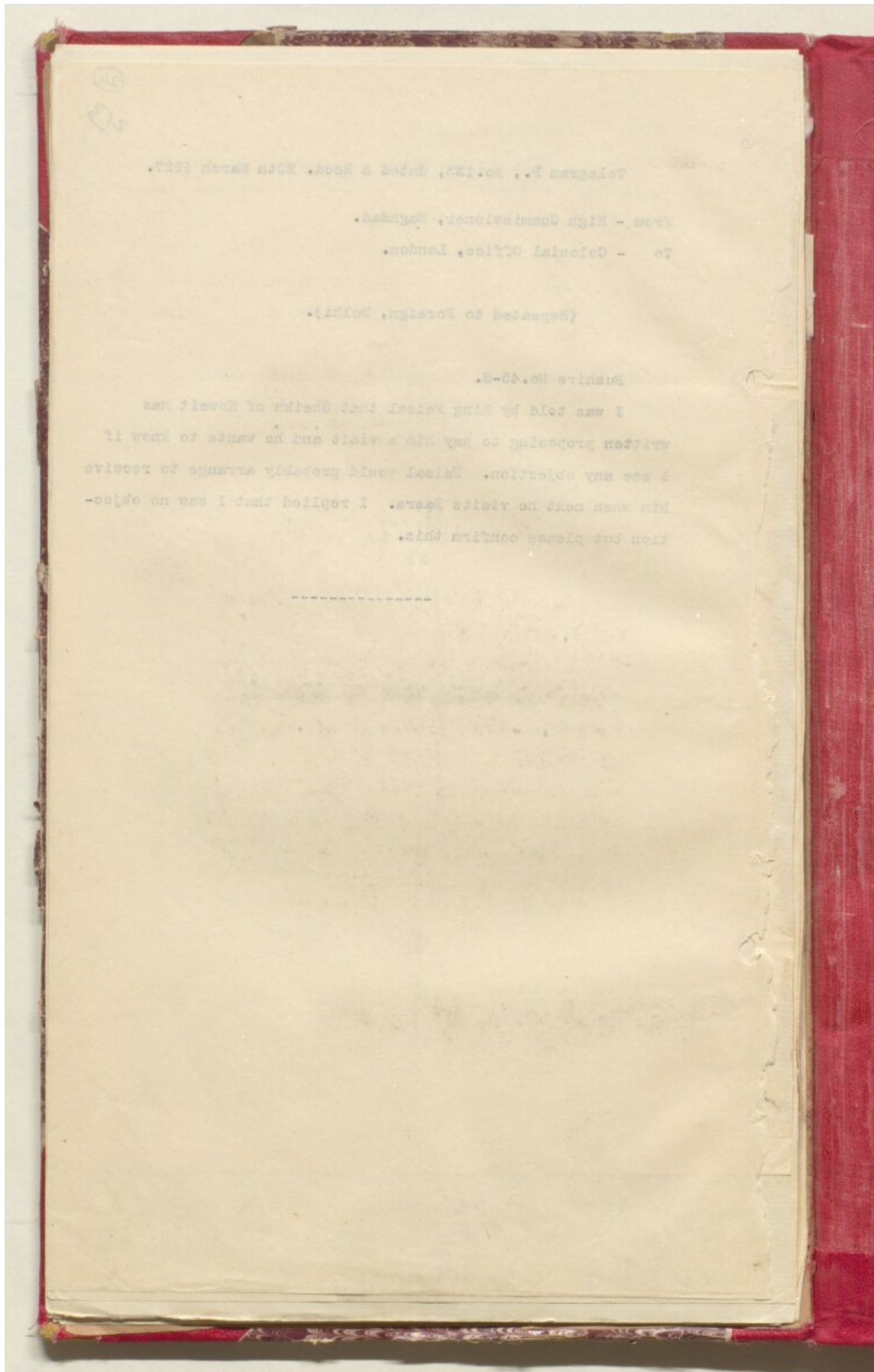
15/2/27
N.B. Telegram duly repeated in R.

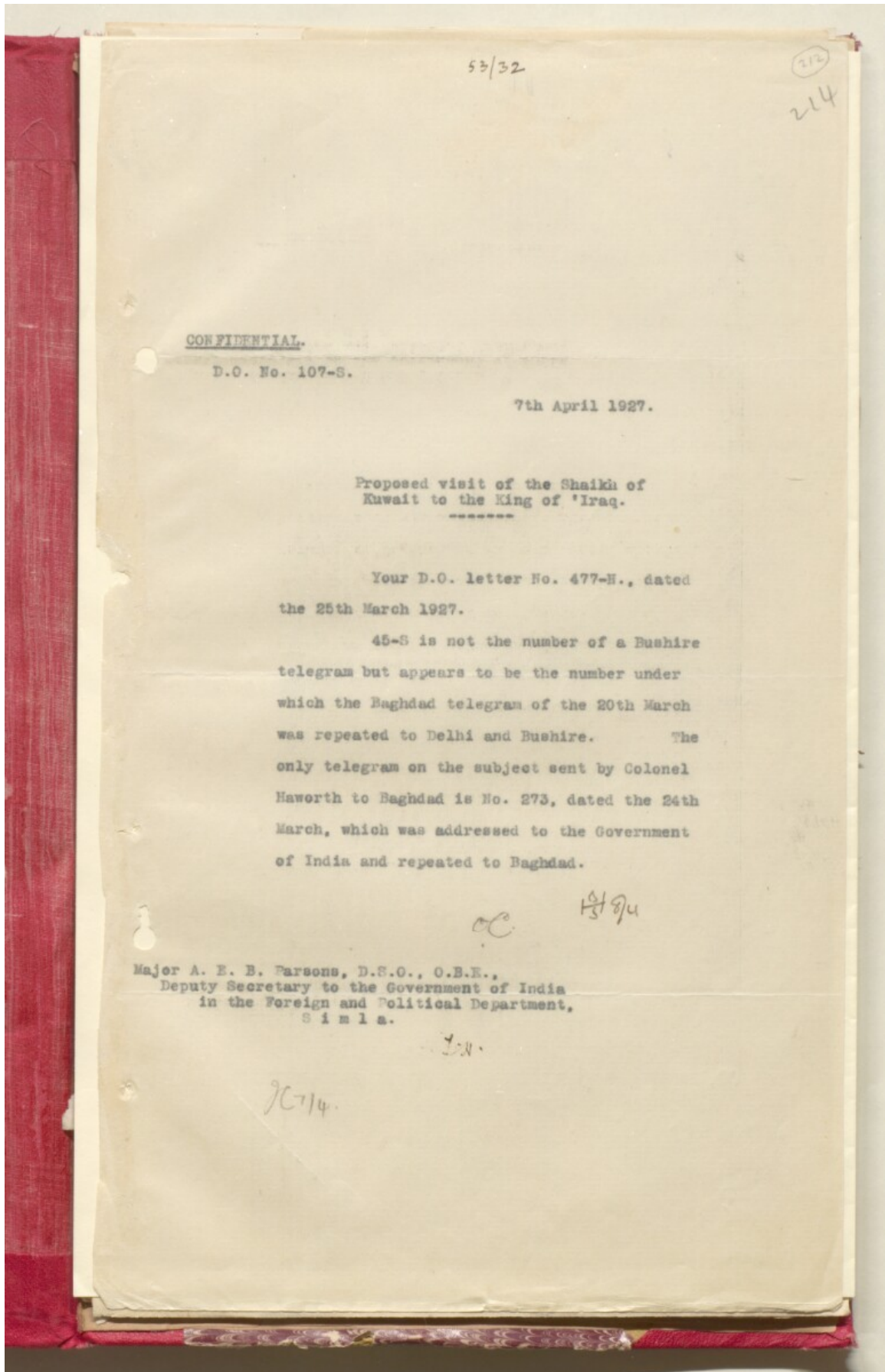


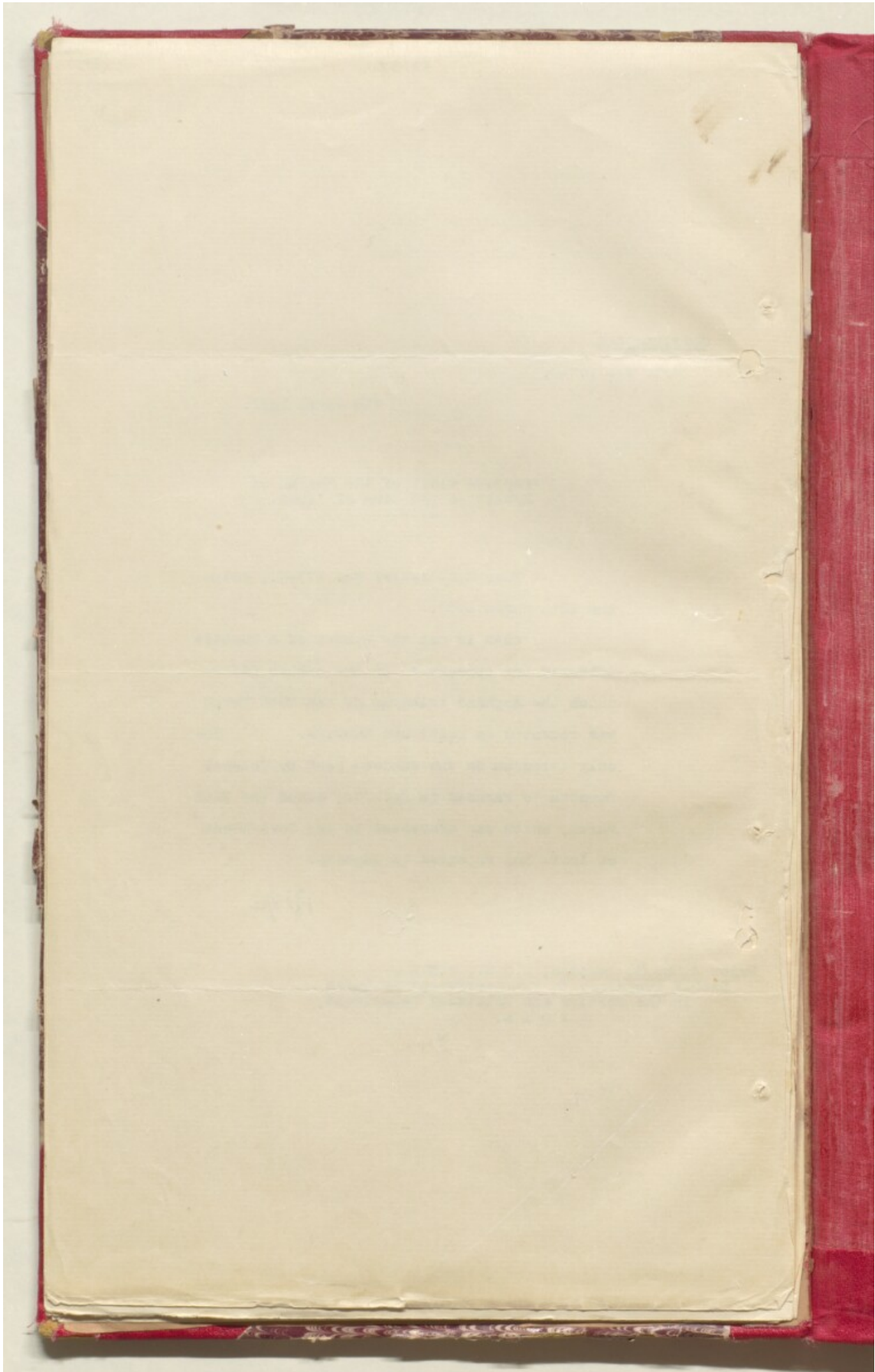


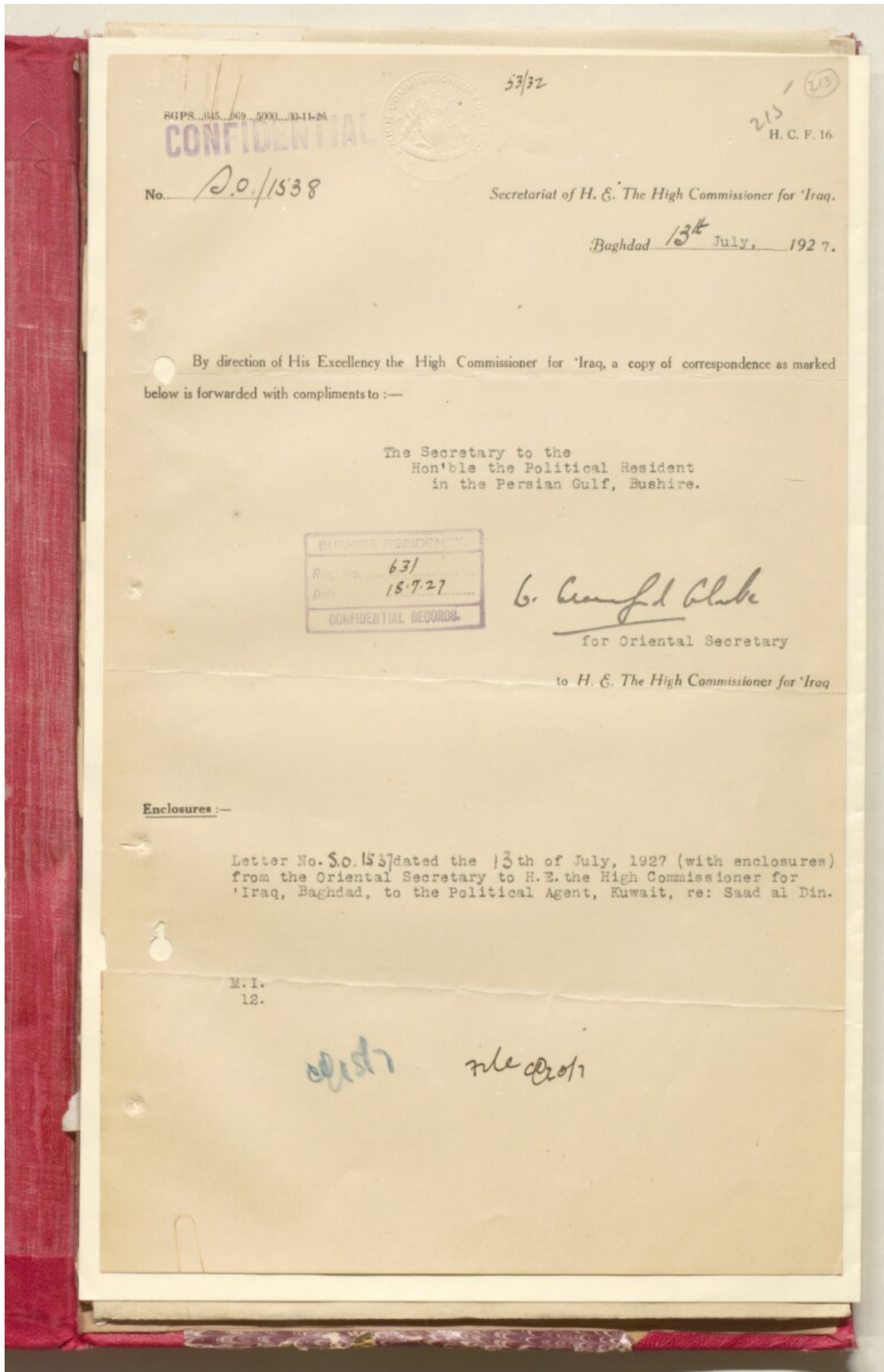


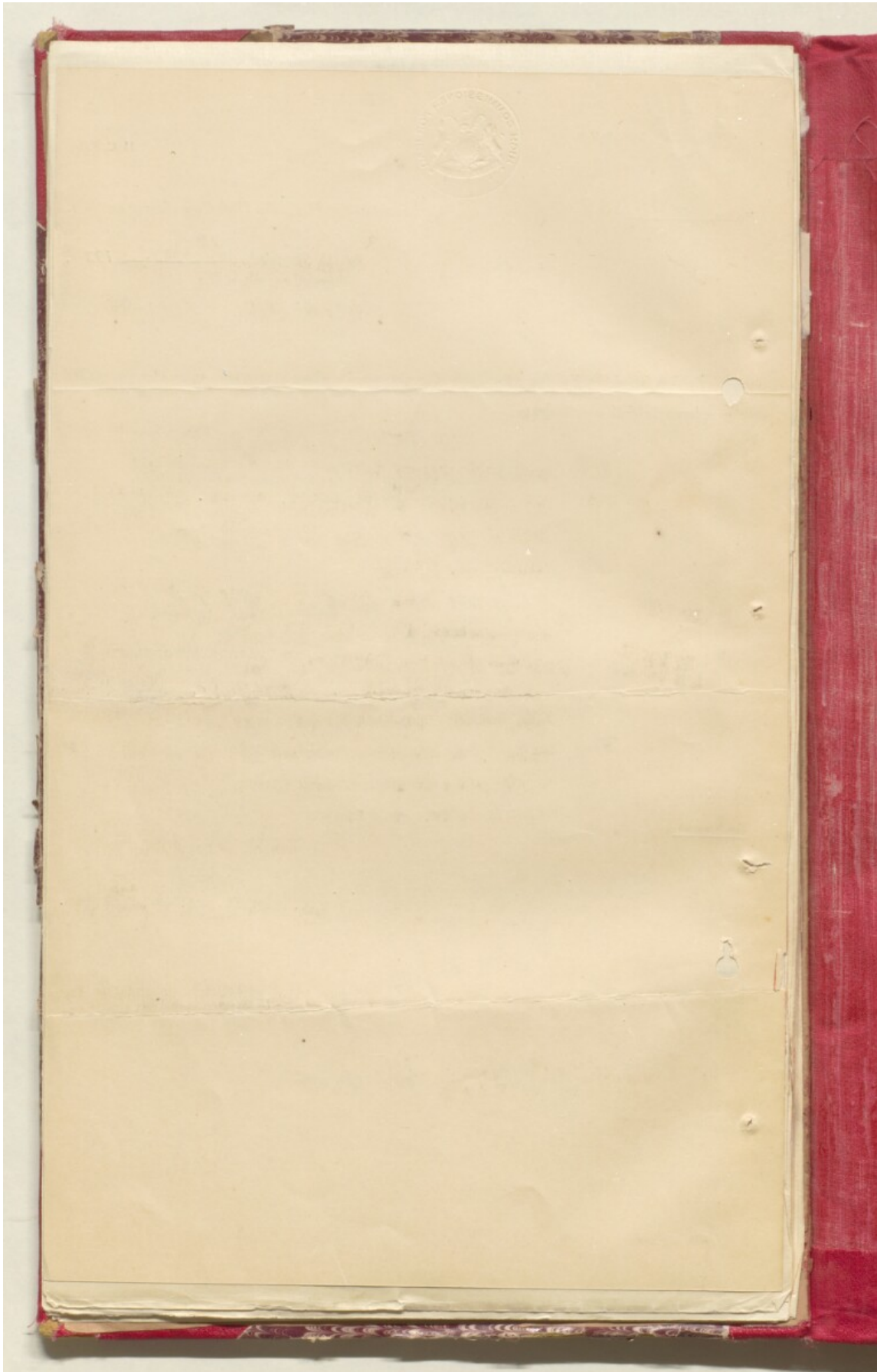




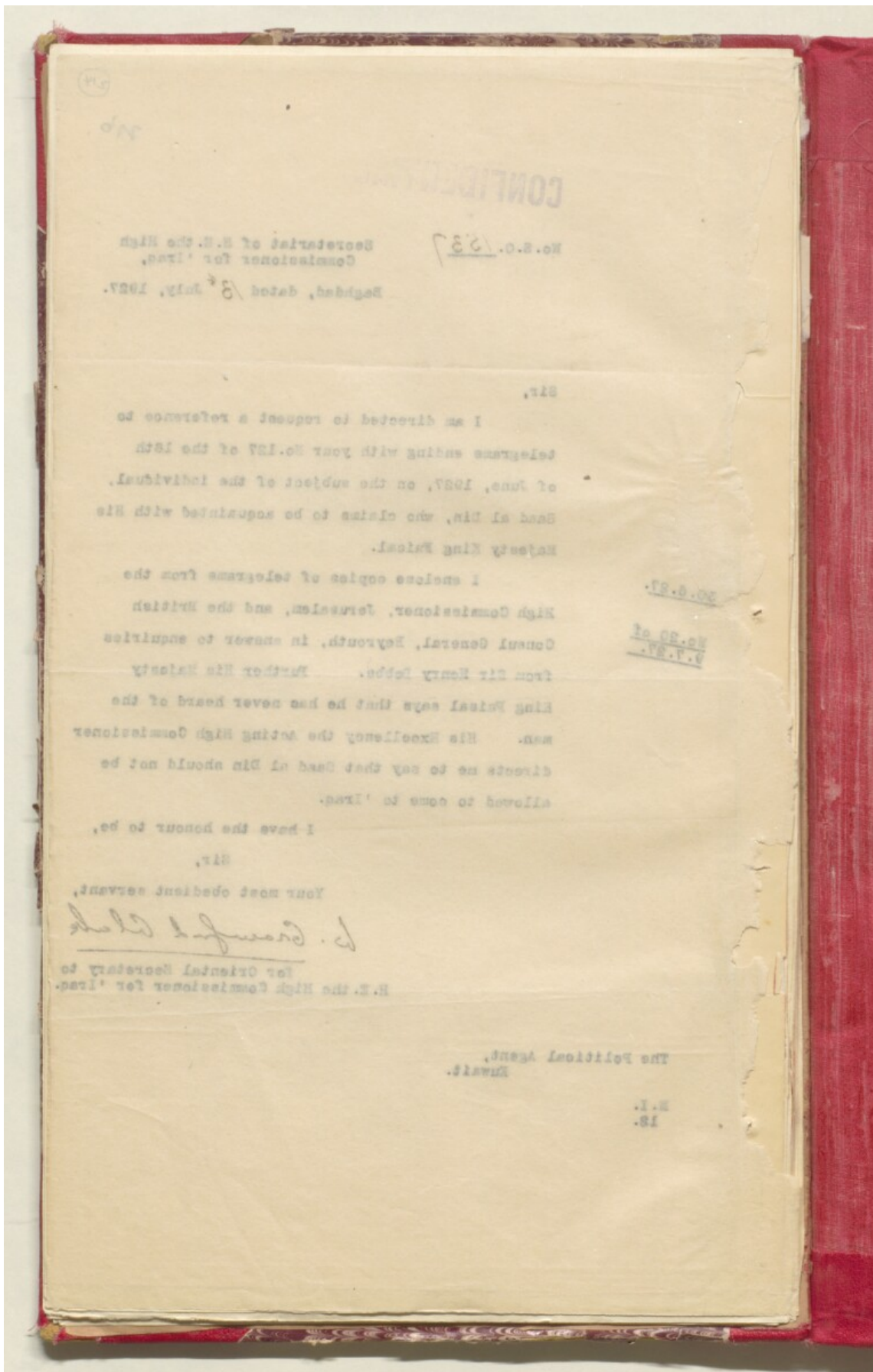


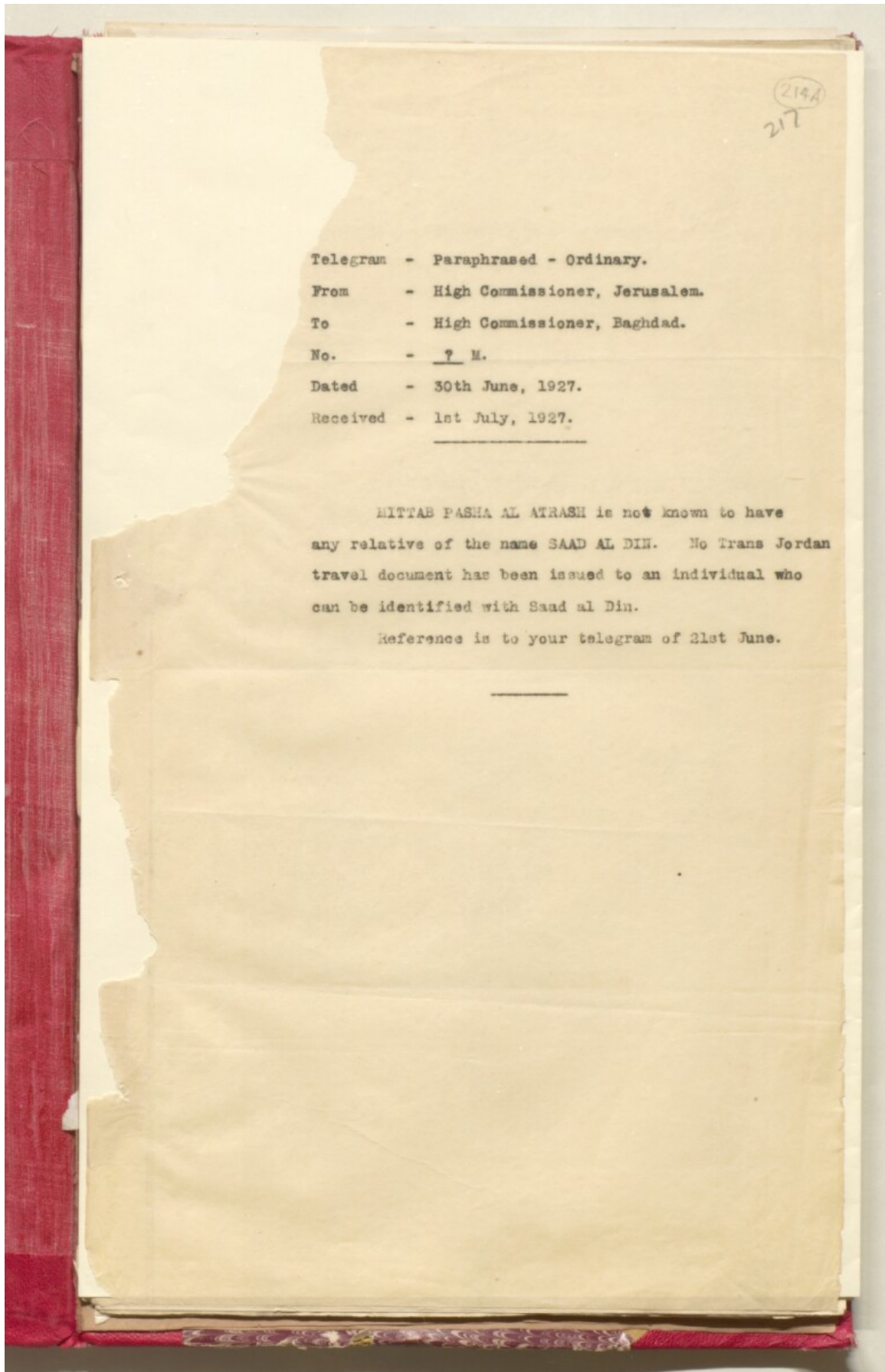








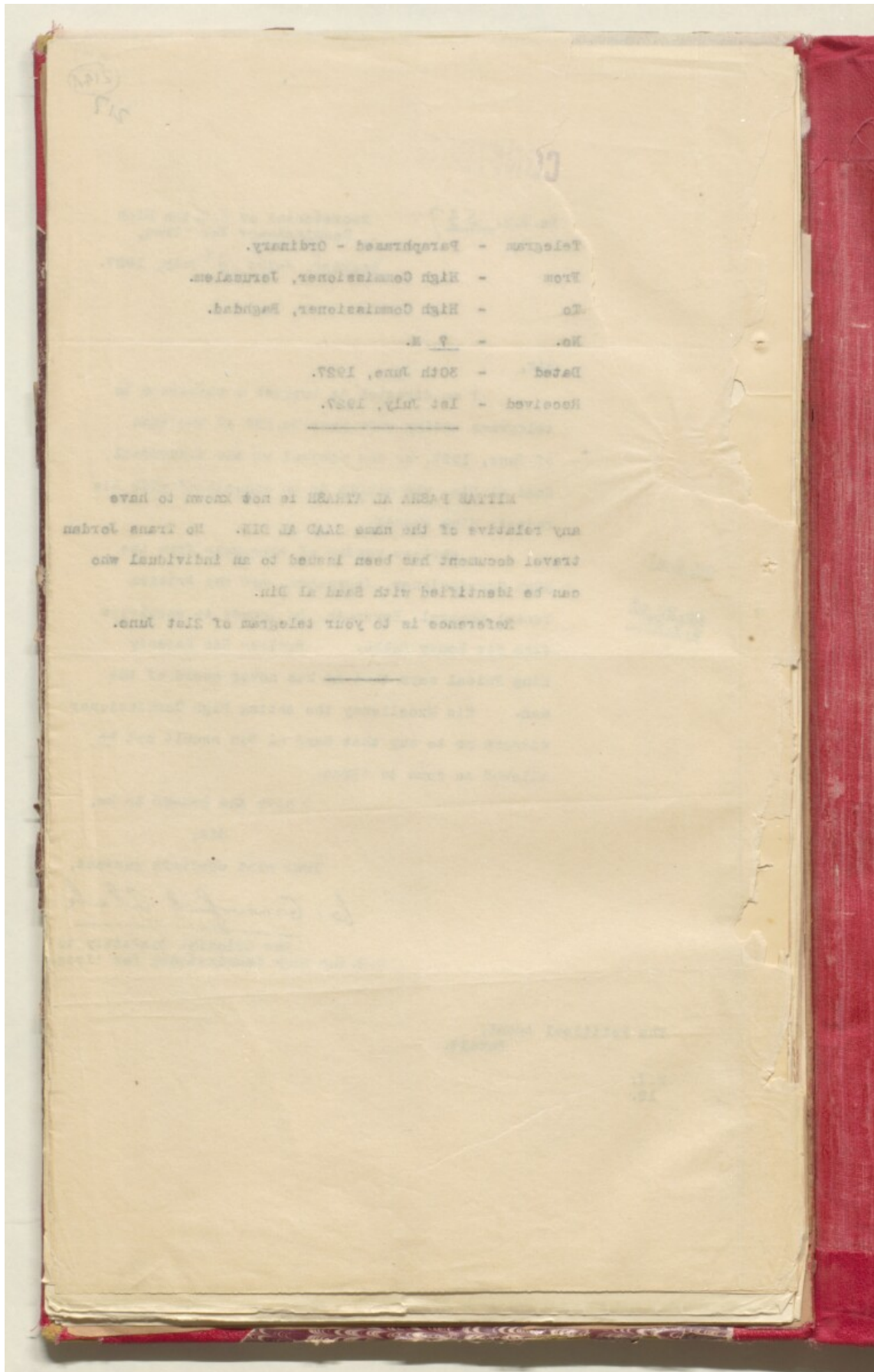
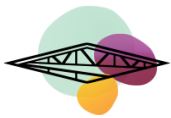


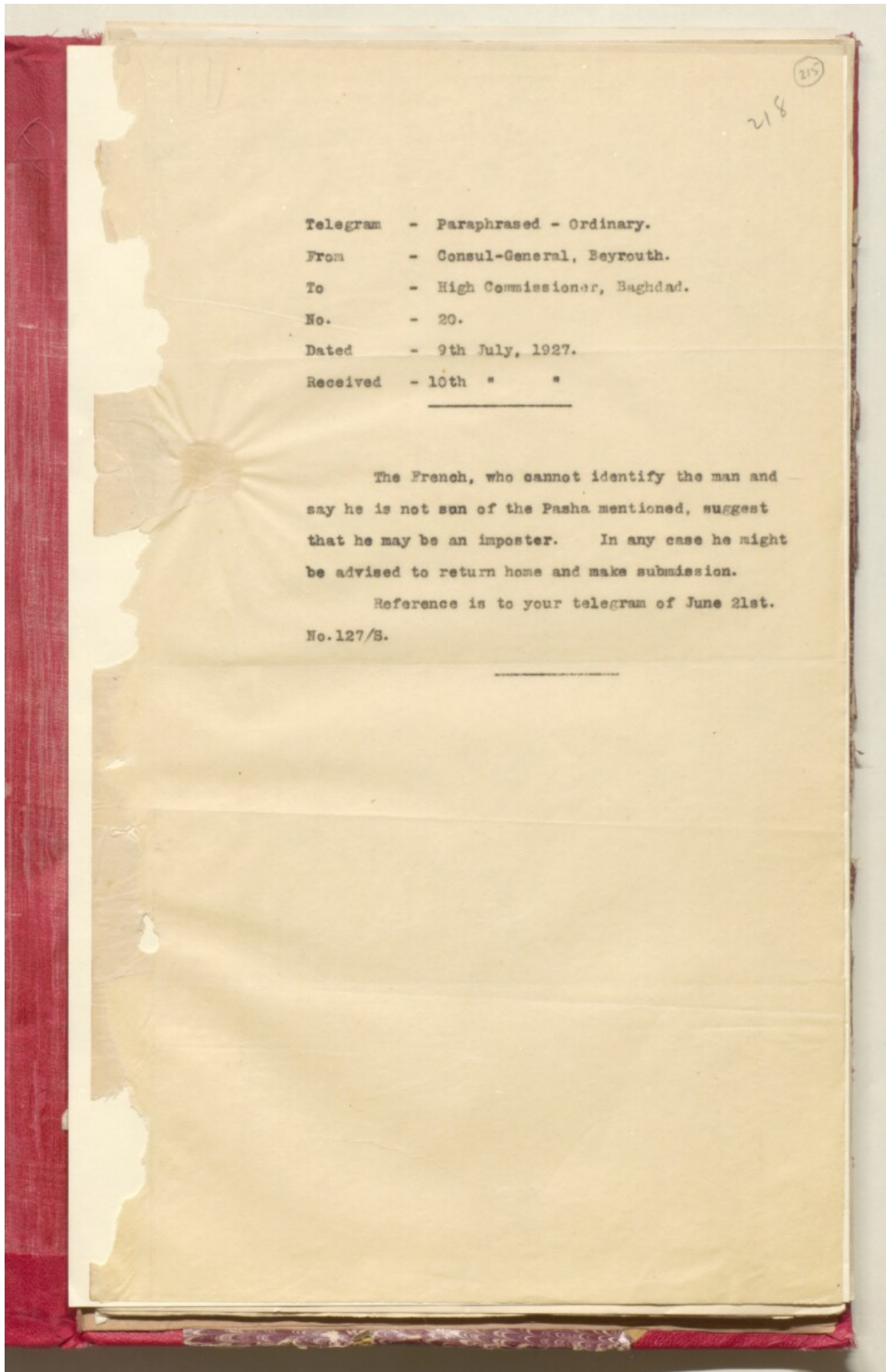


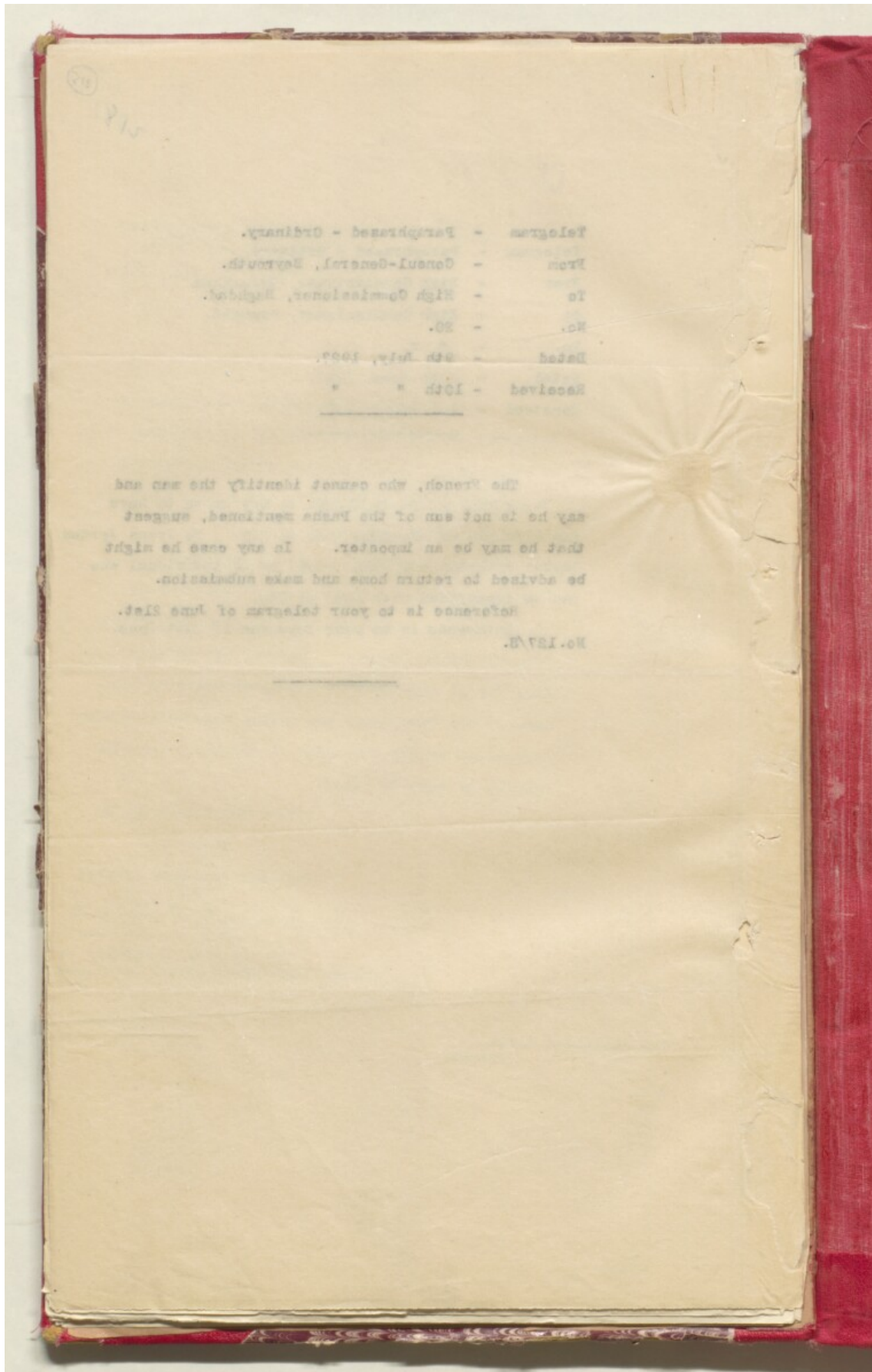
Telegram - Paraphrased - Ordinary.
From - High Commissioner, Jerusalem.
To - High Commissioner, Baghdad.
No. - 7 M.
Dated - 30th June, 1927.
Received - 1st July, 1927.

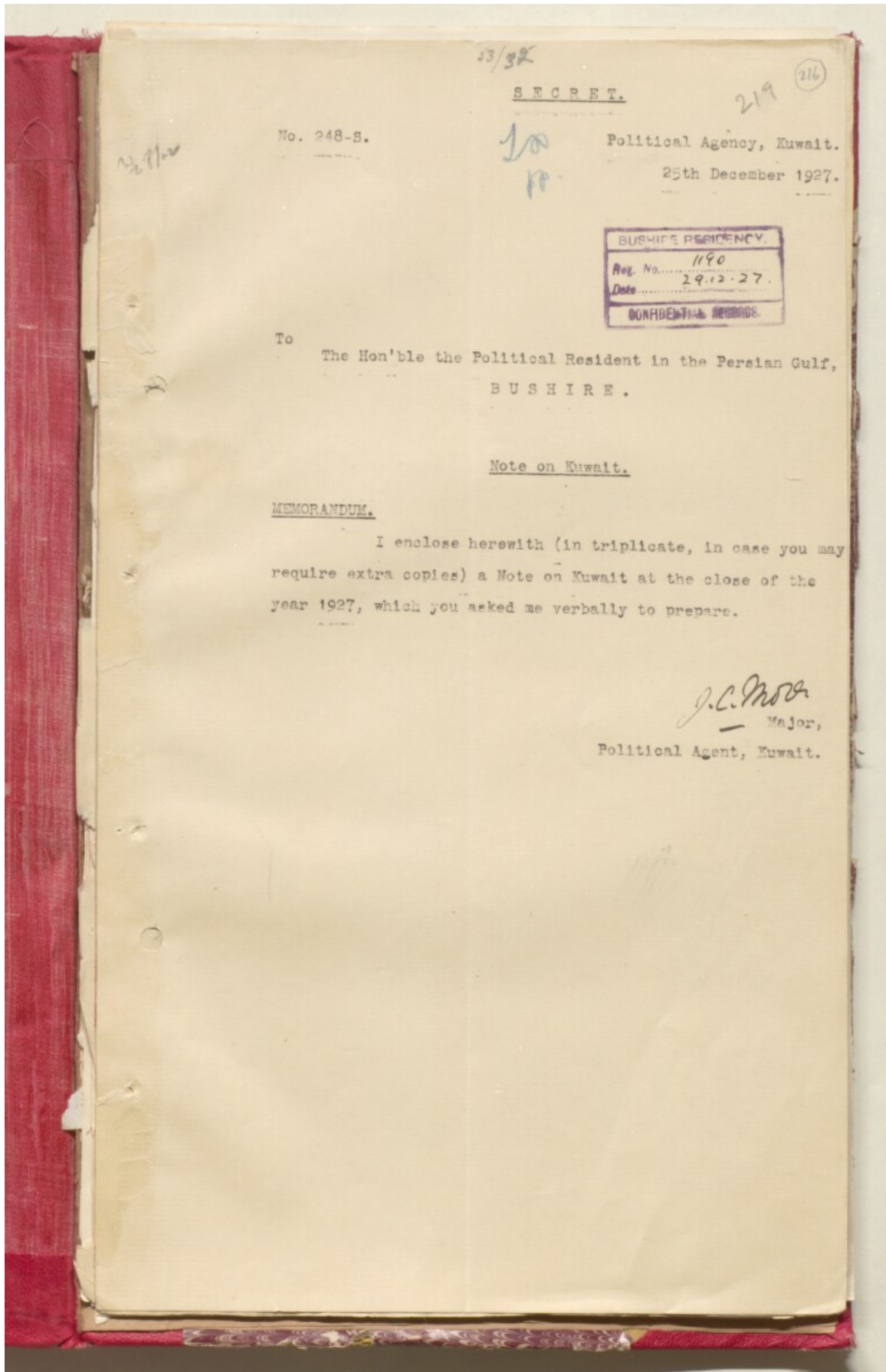
HITTAB PASHA AL ATRASH is not known to have
any relative of the name SAAD AL DIN. No Trans Jordan
travel document has been issued to an individual who
can be identified with Saad al Din.

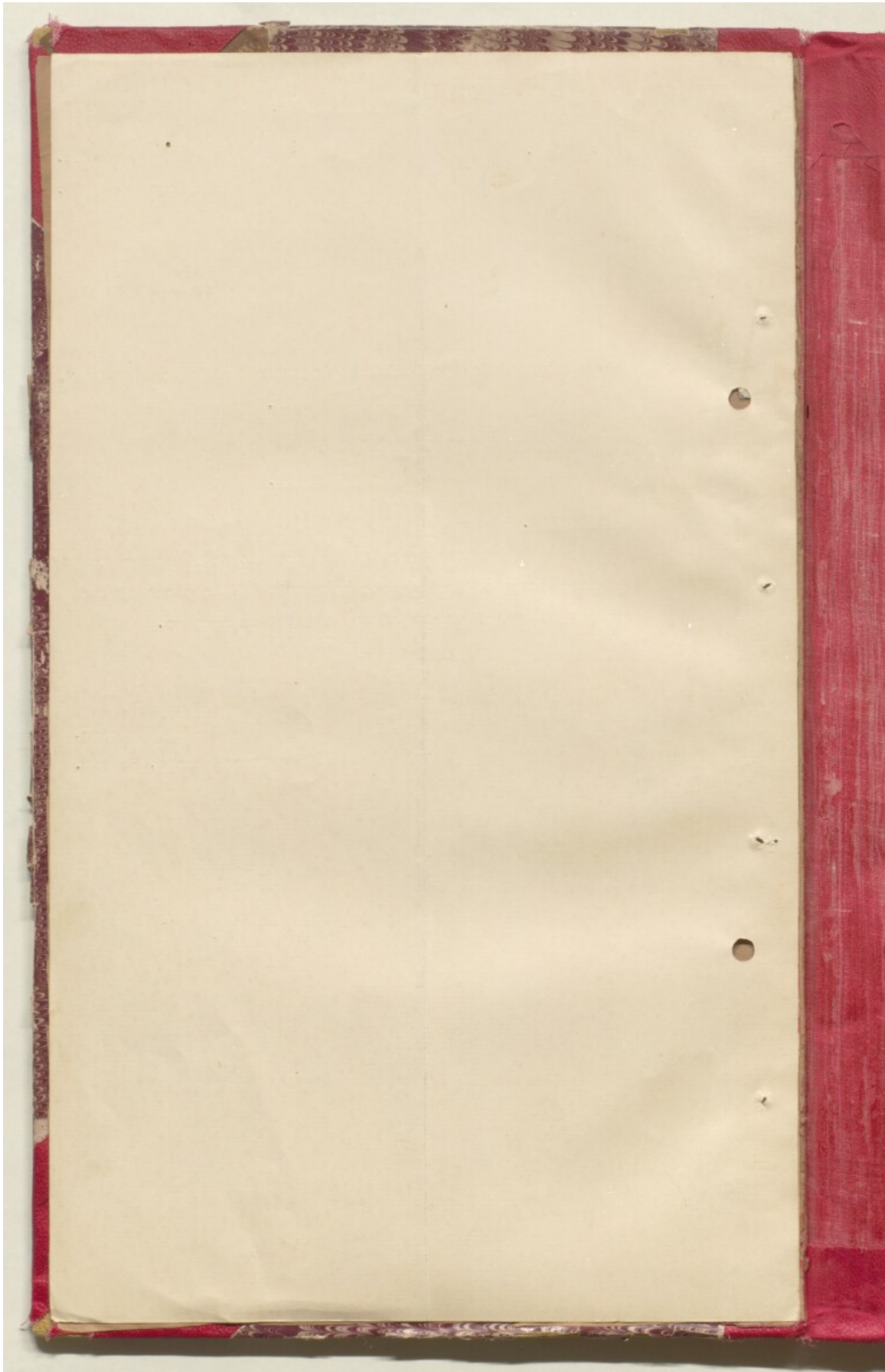
Reference is to your telegram of 21st June.













CONFIDENTIAL.

LETTER FROM THE HON'BLE THE POLITICAL RESIDENT IN THE PERSIAN GULF, No. 21-S., DATED THE 13TH DECEMBER 1927.

I have the honour to forward for the information of the Government of India a copy of a note on the Principality of Kuwait at the end of the year 1927, which I had instructed Major J. C. More, D. S. O., the Political Agent, to draw up. The details of the tribes make clear the situation with Ibn Sa'ud on the Iraq frontier.

The principality of Kuwait is an independent Arab state under a virtual British Protection. It has a distinctive flag of its own: red, with the word "Kuwait" in Arabic characters in white across it.

Boundaries:—The question of the status and territory of the Shaikh of Kuwait was the subject of negotiations between His Majesty's Government and the Sublime Porte in 1913,* as a result of which the Anglo-Turkish Agreement of 29th July 1913,† was signed—but never ratified. By this agreement the autonomy of the Shaikh of Kuwait was recognised in an area, the boundary of which formed a semi-circle with the town of Kuwait as centre and the Khaur az-Zubair on its radius to the north and Qurain to the south, together with the Islands of Warbah, Bubiyan, Maskan, Failakah, 'Auhah, Kubiar, Qaru, Maqta' and Umm al-Maradin, and their adjacent islets. It was further recognised that the Shaikh of Kuwait was the Tribal overlord, and entitled to levy tribute, within a larger area, the boundary of which started from the south side of the Khaur az-Zubair at its junction with the Khaur 'Abdullah and passed just to the south of Umm Qasr, Safwan and Jabal Sanam and on to the Batin; it then turned south-west and followed the Batin to Hafar al-Batin; it then turned south-east, and included the wells of Safah, Qa'rah, Habah and Wabrah, and the village of Anta', and joined the sea at Jabal Mani'ah. This Anglo-Turkish Agreement, however, as stated above was never ratified.

During the rule of Shaikh Salim, the question of the boundary between his territory and that of Ibn Sa'ud became very acute, and resulted in the surprise and defeat of the Kuwait tribesmen at Hamdh near Jaryah,‡ or Qaryah as it should really be pronounced, in April 1920, and the battle of Jahrah in October of the same year. The question first arose in January 1919, when Shaikh Salim wanted to build a fort at Dauhah Balbul, just north of Jabal Mani'ah, to which Ibn Sa'ud objected, and claimed that it was within his territory. Nothing happened until April 1920, when Ibn Shuqair started to build the Ikhwan village of Jaryah, but from then onwards the relations between Shaikh Salim and

Ibn Sa'ud went from bad to worse. During the summer of 1920, both parties applied for British arbitration, and both were asked to state exactly what territory they claimed. Ibn Sa'ud* replied that he claimed the whole country up to the walls of Kuwait; and Shaikh Salim claimed a frontier similar to the outer line of the Anglo-Turkish Agreement. The High Commissioner for Iraq then invited Ibn Sa'ud to Basrah with a view to settling the dispute, but Ibn Sa'ud replied that he was unable to come at the time. In January 1921, the Shaikh of Muhammarah offered to send his son Shaikh Clasib, accompanied by Shaikh Ahmad al-Jabir of Kuwait, to Najd, to try and arrange a truce between Ibn Sa'ud and Shaikh Salim. His offer was accepted, and the mission left for Bahrain en route for Najd in February, and reached Ibn Sa'ud's camp to the north of Riyadh on the 2nd March. Two days later the news of Shaikh Salim's death reached them, and Ibn Sa'ud† at once said that there was no longer any quarrel to settle, or any need for a boundary between his territory and that of Kuwait. Ibn Sa'ud had already been told that His Majesty's Government recognised the territory within the inner boundary of the Anglo-Turkish Agreement as definitely belonging to Kuwait. Nothing more happened regarding the frontier until November 1922,§ when at a Conference held at 'Uqair between Sir Percy Cox and Ibn Sa'ud, at which the Political Agent was also present, the question of a frontier between Kuwait and Najd came up for discussion. It was recognised at once that the power of Ibn Sabah (to give the Shaikh of Kuwait his desert title) was much less in the desert than it had been when the Anglo-Turkish Agreement was drawn up, and an agreement was eventually arrived at by which the frontier starts from the junction of the Wadi al-Aujah with the Batin on the west. From this point, leaving Bigh'i to Najd, it runs in a straight line to the junction of the 29th parallel of latitude with the red semi-circle on the map attached to the draft Anglo-Turkish Agreement, || and then follows the red semi-circle to the sea. The above forms the southern boundary of the recognized territory of Kuwait, but the tract of country bounded on the north by the above line, on the west by the Shaqq, on the east by the sea, and on the south by a straight line running eastwards from the Shaqq in the west, through 'Ain al-'Abd, to the sea north of Ras al-Mish'ab, is recognized as common to the two states of Najd and Kuwait, in which both enjoy equal rights. In April 1923¶ the Shaikh of Kuwait, was informed that His Majesty's Government recognized the other frontiers claimed by him. The frontiers of Kuwait are accordingly as shown on the attached map.

* Serial No. 2 in File No. 287-X—23.

† *Ibid.*, Enclosure 2 to Serial No. 16.

‡ *Ibid.*, Enclosure 1 to Serial No. 16.

§ *Ibid.*, Serial No. 20 and Enclosure to Serial No. 21.

|| S. R., December 1913, Nos. 1—24. Encls. to Frs. No. 134.

¶ Serial No. 3: in file No. 287-X—23.

* Secret External, December 1913, Nos. 1—245.

† *Ibid.*

‡ Enclosure to Serial No. 2 in File 587—X of 1923.



Administration.—Kuwait was founded about the beginning of the eighteenth century by some settlers of the 'Utub, a sect of the 'Anizah, over whom the Subah family enjoyed predominance. It is unnecessary to consider its early history. Suffice it to say that in May 1896 Shaikh Mubarak became Ruler of Kuwait on the assassination of his brother. It was he who raised Kuwait from a place of little importance to a flourishing principality. Under his strong rule it became a most attractive place to live in to the Arab mind, and the population of the town nearly doubled itself. It would be difficult to speak too highly in praise of his devotion to the British Government. Shaikh Mubarak died* in November 1915, and was succeeded by his eldest son, Shaikh Jabir, a debonair and pleasant man, whose mildness and affability made him a popular Ruler. Shaikh Salim, another son of Shaikh Mubarak's, succeeded on his brother's death† in February 1917. He was a very different type of man from his easy-going brother, being a stern Muhammadan and a very obstinate man. He had spent nearly all his life in the desert before he came to the throne, and hated all modern inventions. He was almost entirely to blame for his quarrel with Ibn Sa'ud and all the sorrow that it brought to Kuwait, and in short he did nearly as much harm to the State, as his father had done good. He died‡ suddenly on the 25th February 1921 to the undisguised joy of nearly all his subjects.

It had always been the custom for Shaikhs of Kuwait to rule personally and autocratically, and to avoid all delegation of authority. In the town it was their usage to give audience for an hour or two each morning in the market-place, and decide cases by direct judgement. On the death of Shaikh Salim, however, the townspeople, tired of the unnecessary war with Ibn Sa'ud which he had led them into against their will, determined that in future they would have some say in the affairs of the State, and informed the members of the Subah family that they would only accept as their Ruler one who would accept a council of advisers.

Shaikh Ahmad,§ eldest son of the late Shaikh Jabir, was chosen as Ruler, and on his return from Najd an Agreement was drawn up between him and the people of Kuwait to the effect that all criminal cases would be decided in accordance with the *Shari'* or Religious Law; that in case of appeal the written statements of both parties and the *Qadhi's* judgement would be submitted to the *'Ulama*, whose decision would be final; that if both parties in a dispute agreed beforehand for a third party to arbitrate between them, his decision should hold; that the Ruler would seek advice in all matters—external as well as internal—which affected the town; and that if any one had any suggestion to make for the benefit of the town or people, he would lay it before the Ruler, who would consult his people, and adopt it if they so advised. A council of twelve members was duly elected—six from the eastern half of the

town, and six from the western—under the presidency of one of the leading merchants, H-mad bin 'Abdullah as-Saqar. Since the early days of its election, however, this Council has never met, and in practice Shaikh Ahmad rules in much the same manner as his predecessors.

He is a mild and pleasant man of much the same type as his father. His bluff, jovial manner make him an eminently suitable person for his position in so far as the ceremonial part of his duties are concerned. Unfortunately, however, he has no strength of character, and is a lamentably weak Ruler. He is a right-minded man, and would normally like to do the right thing, but is easily swayed by his advisers—who are not always of the most desirable type. Like many weak men, he can at times be very obstinate. Although greatly desiring popularity, he is not very popular amongst his subjects, amongst whom he has the reputation of being mean. He is a strict Muslim, and is zealous in the enforcement of the prohibition against strong liquor, and also in the suppression of prostitution. He himself is a non-smoker. He is unquestionably well disposed towards the British, and is very fond of entertaining in British style. He has a suite of rooms furnished like a European house, and is fond of cinematographs, cameras, cars, and other modern inventions. He frequently drives his own car.

Shaikh Hamad al-Mubarak, the Shaikh's uncle, officiates for him whenever he leaves Kuwait. He is nine years younger than his nephew, being thirty three years of age. His mother belonged to the Ajman tribe. He is a quiet, shy man, with no great intelligence, and no strength of character.

Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim was born in 1895. He is by far the strongest in character and most intelligent member of the Subah family. He is a well read man and can converse on many more subjects than the average man of his class. He is his cousin's only really dangerous rival. He is certainly an ambitious man, and there is little doubt that he had strong hopes of succeeding his father on his death in 1921, notwithstanding the fact that he is Shaikh Ahmad's junior by ten years. When Shaikh Ahmad was chosen as Ruler, Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim started to "assist" him, and soon got a good deal of power into his own hands, which Ahmad with his easy going nature allowed him to do. He soon started issuing orders not as the Ruler's deputy, but in his own name, and it looked very much as if he were going to become the virtual ruler of Kuwait, and Shaikh Ahmad to remain a mere figurehead—if that. After about two months, however, he overstepped the mark, by trying to introduce a sort of "civil list", with fixed salaries for all the members of the Subah family, including Shaikh Ahmad. According to the scale which he drafted he himself was to get almost as much as Shaikh Ahmad, and far more than any of the others. This produced a very stormy scene between Abdullah and the rest of the family, at which Shaikh Jabir as-Subah, Mubarak's brother, who has since died, did some very plain speaking, and Shaikh Abdullah went into retirement, and did not appear in public again for some time.

* S. E., July 1916, Nos. 138, Serial Nos. 1 and 6.

† S. E., August 1917, Nos. 44-62, Pro. Nos. 46-47.

‡ S. E., October 1921, Nos. 311-327, Pro. No. 311.

§ *Ibid.* Pro. No. 314.

|| *Ibid.* Pro. No. 317.



Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim next came into prominence in May 1923. Ibn Sa'ud had sent* one Saiyid Hamzah al-Ghauth to Kuwait to represent him at a Conference at which it was hoped to come to an understanding regarding the vexed question of the Najd Customs with a view to the re-opening of trade between Najd and Kuwait. The negotiations proved entirely abortive and Saiyid Hamzah left Kuwait for Riyadh on the 19th May. He was accompanied, however, by Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim as representative of Shaikh Ahmad, who had written to Ibn Sa'ud that he saw no hope of coming to an agreement on the terms proposed by Saiyid Hamzah, so he had decided to let him return, and send a deputation of his own, headed by his cousin. Shaikh Abdullah returned to Kuwait on 27th June, and it became known that he had come to a private understanding with Ibn Sa'ud, by which the latter was to recognize him as his agent in Kuwait, with whom alone he would correspond, and was to allow trade between Najd and Kuwait to be re-opened in return for the whole of the customs dues on exports from Kuwait by land (other than those for Kuwait subjects or for Iraq), which Shaikh Abdullah was to collect and remit to him.

Shaikh Abdullah at first urged Shaikh Ahmad to settle the matter himself without consulting his people at all, but he refused to do this, and several meetings were held. Shaikh Abdullah nearly succeeded in persuading the people to take up his plan, and urge Shaikh Ahmad to agree to it, but some stood out firmly against it. Shaikh Ahmad, after vacillating for several days, finally wrote to Ibn Sa'ud rejecting his terms.

Since then Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim has kept quiet, and spends most of his time at his house at Sha'b, outside the town.

The only other members of the Subah worth noting are Shaikh Salman al-Hamad, who is rather a distinguished looking man of forty-six. There is nothing in him, however, and he drinks. His father was a younger brother of Shaikh Mubarak.

Shaikh 'Ali al-Khalifah, a grandson of Shaikh Abdullah who was Ruler from 1866 to 1892, is a fat, cheery man of forty-four, who wears ringlets like a Bedouin and lives largely in the desert. He is the chief commander of the Kuwait forces in war, and the recognized expert on all things military. He is noted for his enormous appetite.

Outside the Subah family, the people who have the most influence over the Shaik are :—

Khan Bahadur Mullah Salih, his chief secretary, who is a foxy, intriguing little man, with plenty of brains.

Khan Sahib Abdul Latif, his Director of Customs. A very pleasant man of undoubted ability, but not fastidiously scrupulous.

Abdul Aziz as-Salim, his agent in Basrah, where he normally lives. This man is a born intriguer, and it is common knowledge in Kuwait that he used to work—if he does not still do so—in Shaikh Abdullah's interests against Shaikh Ahmad.

*Encl. 1 to Serial No. 1 in file No. 438(ii)—X. of 1923.

The above three individuals are actually in the Shaikh's employ. The following are influential notables :—

Saiyid Hamid Bey as-Naqib, a son of the late *Naqib* of Basrah and brother of the famous Saiyid Talib Pasha. He lives partly in Basrah and partly in Kuwait, and owns property in both places. Unlike his brother he does not go in for politics, and, despite his high birth, he does not despise business. To him belongs the credit of making the motor road from Kuwait to Zubair, and of forming the Kuwait-Iraq Motor Transport Company. He is also the Ford agent in Kuwait. He is a well educated man, with charming manner, and I am sure that what influence he has is for good.

Hilal al-Mutairi is the leading pearl merchant of Kuwait. Born and brought up in the desert with his tribe, he was fortunate at pearl diving when a young man, settled in the town, and is now by far the richest man in the place. He is still a Bedouin at heart: he has a very fine house, but I do not believe there is a chair in it—his reception rooms being furnished with rich carpets, cushions and camel-saddles alone. At the time of the recent "revival" when the Mutairi became Ikhwan, he wavered for some time as to whether to join the movement himself or not, and got so far as to discard his head-rope and bind his kerchief with a turban instead (the outward emblem of the Ikhwan). He soon made up his mind, however, and went back to the head-rope. Still, he is very strict, and strongly disapproves of smoking, etc. He has never lost touch with his tribe, and no Mutairi ever comes to Kuwait without going to his house. He is consequently very well informed regarding the desert. He is an elderly man and his views are somewhat old fashioned, but on the whole his influence is for good.

Shamlan al-Ali is the second largest pearl merchant in Kuwait, and is closely associated with Hilal al-Mutairi. Like him he has great influence. He took a very strong line in opposing Shaikh Abdullah as-Salim's Customs scheme in June 1923†—in fact, but for him it is probable that Shaikh Abdullah would have got his way, and Shaikh Ahmad been forced to agree to Ibn Sa'ud's terms.

Hamad bin Abdullah as-Sagar owns the biggest building establishment in Kuwait, and has also interests in Iraq—in fact for the last year or two he has spent much more of his time there than in Kuwait. He had a very bitter hatred against the late Shaikh Salim on account of the needless wars he had inflicted upon Kuwait, and I think it is quite probable that he would have brought about a revolution before long if Shaikh Salim had not died when he did—he had already sounded the Political Agent as to the possibility of petitioning Government to depose him. It was Hamad as-Sagar who championed the proposal that the people would not tolerate another absolute Ruler; and he was president of the Council which was elected at the beginning of Shaikh Ahmad's rule—but which never functioned.

†Sub-encl. to Encl. to Serial No. 7 in file No. 438(ii)—X. of 1923.



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4
Hamad al-Khalid is a dour, but kindly, old man of old-fashioned views. During the War he started to lead the Pro-Turk party—until Shaikh Mubarak made it clear that there was to be no Pro-Turk Party in Kuwait. There is now nothing anti-British about him.

Shaikh Yusuf bin 'Isa is a schoolmaster and intriguer who is mixed up with every underhand plot in Kuwait.

There are of course many others who are in a position to influence the Shaikh but the above are the most important. Two other men, not Kuwait subjects, whose characters are worth considering are 'Abdullah an-Nafisi and Shaikh Hafidh Wabbah.

'*Abdullah an-Nafisi* is Ibn Sa'ud's Agent in Kuwait. He is a pleasant and tactful man, who is liked by everyone in the place. Though Agent to the Wahhabi King, he is one of the heaviest smokers I have seen.

Shaikh (or Mulla) Hafidh Wabbah is an Egyptian who has been in Ibn Sa'ud's service for the last few years. He has the reputation of being rabidly anti-British, and is said to have been deported from Iraq during the War—though I do not remember his case myself—and was deported from Bahrain in 1922.* Personally I think that his reputation is largely, if not entirely, unearned; and that he was really much more anti-Daly than anti-British—he certainly did dislike Major Daly, and probably said so in Bahrain. I was naturally very suspicious of him when he came here, and watched him carefully, but have never heard of him saying or doing anything in the slightest degree anti-British. He is a well educated man but does not give the impression of being in any way brilliant. Ibn Sa'ud is not well off for educated men, and, with the exception of Dr. 'Abdullah Effendi Damlaji, I think Shaikh Hafidh is about the best I have met.

The Town of Kuwait now measures about three miles along the shore, having extended considerably in recent years towards the east. Its greatest depth, about one mile, is near the centre of the town, where the long suburb called Murqab has grown out from it towards the south-east. The streets are irregular and winding, and the town is not laid out on any general plan. Most of the houses have only a ground floor, but appear higher, owing to a parapet-wall enclosing the roof. There are over forty mosques, of which nine are Friday congregational mosques. None of them have any architectural merit. In the year 1920 the existing *Town Wall* was built by the late Shaikh Salim. It is a little over four miles in length, and has three gates. In addition to the gates, which are protected by towers, there is a tower about every two hundred yards throughout the length of the wall.

The Inhabitants are for the most part Arabs of the 'Utub, 'Awazim, Rashaidah, Bani Khalid, Dawasir, 'Ajman, 'Anizah and Dhaifir tribes, besides Arabs from Hasa, etc. There are also a large number of Persians (mostly engaged in menial pursuits) and many negroes. The Jewish community numbers about 160 souls, and the Christians only a few families. Indians have

never 'made good' in Kuwait, and are much despised. There are only three or four in the town.

The Population is believed to be somewhere in the neighbour of 50,000.

Education.—There are a great number of schools of a sort in Kuwait. The Arabs conduct at least fifty two; the Persians have eleven, and the Jews and Christians one each, making a total of at least sixty five. Of the Arab schools twenty seven are for boys and twenty five for girls. These schools are not under any control by the local Government. Most of the boys' schools and all the girls' schools teach nothing but the reading of the Quran; and up to the end of 1911 no higher form of education was available in the town.

At present *The American Mission School* gives by far the best education in Kuwait, particularly as regards English, but it only has twenty boys—which is about all it can accommodate.

The Mubarakiyah School was established in 1912, about the same time as the Mission School. A sum of Rs. 85,000 was collected by public subscription, of which Rs. 40,000 was used to build a school, with many large class-rooms and verandahs round a courtyard, and the balance kept as an endowment fund. It has a Board of Trustees in charge of its affairs. Its income is derived from the endowment and the fees for pupils, who pay Rs. 2 a month each. There is a headmaster and six assistant masters and about 220 boys, who are graded in classes. The curriculum includes the Quran, Traditions, canon law, ethics, Arabic reading, composition and grammar, arithmetic, geography, history and English. It is thus far advanced from the usual mulla school, but even so it does not pretend to give more than a primary education.

The Ahmadiyah School was founded in the autumn of 1921 under the auspices of the Muslim Benevolent Association, with the assistance of the present Ruler, after whom it was named. It has its own Board of Trustees. Its income is derived from the fees of students, supplemented by annual contributions from benevolent residents, and it is therefore not on a very secure basis. It has seven masters and 165 boys, and its curriculum is the same as that of the Mubarakiyah School, but it is planned to make it into a secondary school when—or if—they can get qualified masters at the salaries which they can afford to pay.

The Orphanage School for orphans and other poor boys is supported entirely by one family of wealthy pearl merchants. It has six masters and about 130 boys, and teaches the usual Quranic branches, with history and arithmetic in addition. There are eight other schools for Arab boys which teach a little arithmetic, in addition to the reading of the Quran.

Persian Schools which teach writing and arithmetic, in addition to the reading of the Quran, are three in number; while there are eight others which teach the last subject only.

Agriculture.—In Kuwait and its environs is practically nil. There are no date plantations of any value, hardly any fields and not many kitchen gardens. The villages to the south-east of

* F. No. 480-X—23.



Kuwait, supply a limited but increasing quantity of vegetables and melons. The chief agricultural centre in the principality is Jahrah, where wheat, barley and lucern are grown, as well as vegetables, and where there are some 2500 date palms. The agriculture of Jahrah might be considerably increased if more money were sunk in it. The next most important agricultural centre is the island of Failakah, where wheat and barley are grown with some success on the clayey patches, also vegetables, and particularly carrots, which are of quite exceptionally fine quality.

The Sea Fisheries.—Of Kuwait are its only truly local produce; these are a valuable asset. Besides float-and-weight nets and lines, traps made of reed hurdles are also used; the fish enter them at the flowing tide and are left behind at the ebb. The majority of the fish caught is consumed locally but a small proportion is dried and exported to Basrah and elsewhere. The fisherman of Kuwait are mostly Arabs of the 'Awazin tribe, but there are also other Arabs and a few Persians. The boats used are practically all *Sa'as*, the exception being *jalibauts*. A few of the primitive *ku'airigahs*, or boats made of date branches are still used.

Pearl Fishing is the most important trade of Kuwait. The town possesses over seven hundred pearl boats, but many of these have not been at sea for years, as owing to the increased demand for labour elsewhere, it is impossible to find crews for them. The average number of boats from Kuwait which now visit the banks is not more than about 330, and this year it was very much smaller. The Kuwait PEARLING FLEET consists of two parts: the small boats which fish off the Neutral Zone, Sudah and Huzum; while the larger boats go farther afield. The 1927 season was better than has been for three or four years, and the pearl market, which has been bad for some time is also better.

Trade.—Kuwait owes its mercantile importance to its purling and carrying fleets, and to its trade with India, and with 'Iraq and Persia—especially a lucrative smuggling trade. Also in normal years with the Interior of Arabia, particularly Qasim, for which it is the natural port. Since the beginning of 1922, however, this trade has been closed by Ibn Sa'ud, who has prohibited his subjects from trading with Kuwait at all. His reason for this action is that he says he is unable to collect his Customs dues on goods imported from Kuwait in the desert, and that he wants to establish a Najd Customs House in Kuwait Town, an arrangement which the Shaikh of Kuwait has naturally never seen his way to accept. Other suggestions have been made to get over the difficulty: for example that import duty into Najd should be abolished, and that the Shaikh of Kuwait should levy export duty instead and pay Ibn Sa'ud a fixed sum, but up to the present it has not been possible to come to any agreement. This stoppage of trade between Najd and Kuwait is a most serious matter for Kuwait—as also for Qasim and Hail—and the prosperity of the town has been declining ever since. The people of Kuwait are nearly all of Najd origin, and not a few of the Kuwait merchants had partners in Buraidah and Unaijah, and even now the affairs of Najd interest them much more than those of 'Iraq.

Ibn Sa'ud.—The great Wahhabi Ruler Faisal bin Turki as-Sa'ud who died in 1865 left his throne to his eldest son, 'Abdullah. The latter's brother Sa'ud, however, rebelled against him and occupied Riyadh. 'Abdullah fled to Hail, and invoked the assistance of Ibn Rashid, who was then the most powerful man in Arabia. Sa'ud was defeated and killed, but 'Abdullah soon realized that he had gained little, as Ibn Rashid annexed the Wahhabi country, and 'Abdullah was kept a prisoner in Hail until he died.

Meanwhile the remnants of the Sa'ud, who would not submit to a foreign yoke, had gone into exile, some to the Hijaz, and others, including Faisal's fourth son 'Abdur Rahman, to Kuwait. Encouraged and helped by Shaikh Mubarak, another bitter enemy of Ibn Rashid, 'Abdur Rahman undertook the task of freeing his land from the foreigner. An attempt in 1900, failed, but in the spring of 1901 'Abdul Aziz bin 'Abdur Rahman al-Faisal as-Sa'ud, the present "Ibn Sa'ud", setting for his father, left Kuwait with a picked following of two hundred men. When he arrived near Riyadh, he halted his party and went on at dusk with fifteen men alone. They made their way unnoticed to the house of Ibn Rashid's governor, into which they forced an entry and placed every one in it under arrest in one room. They learned that the governor, as always had gone to the fort to pass the night for greater security. They accordingly waited in the house till he returned in the morning surrounded by this bodyguard. As the cortege approached the door, the sixteen rushed out sword in hand, and, after a brief struggle 'Abdul Aziz found himself master of Riyadh. The following years were spent in recovering province after province from the dominion of the foreigner.

In the spring of 1913 'Abdul Aziz, in whose favour his father had abdicated, swooped upon Hara and turned the Turks out of the province lock, stock and barrel. Such was the state of affairs at the outbreak of the War—which affected Arabia less than most parts of the world. When Shaikh Mubarak of Kuwait renounced fealty to the Turk he really changed nothing. When Ibn Rashid marched against Ibn Sa'ud at the close of 1914, although nominally he did so on behalf of the Turks, it was really only another hand in the old match between the rival principalities of Riyadh and Hail. The rival forces met at Majma'ah, 120 miles north-west of Riyadh, and fought an indecisive battle, in which Captain Shakespeare who was with Ibn Sa'ud was killed. It was not till the beginning of November 1921, however, that the long struggle was finally brought to a close by the final surrender of Hail to Ibn Sa'ud. This brought not only the Jabal Shammar, but Jauf and all the surrounding country to the borders of Syria, under his sway.

Ibn Sa'ud's next campaign against the Hijaz started in the summer of 1924, the result of a quarrel which had long been simmering. By the end of 1925 he had captured the Hijaz and expelled the Hashimite dynasty. Thus in twenty-five years did this extraordinary man raise himself from an exile in Kuwait to be King of the Hijaz and of Najd and its Dependencies.

Ibn Sa'ud is now a man of about fifty years of age. He is at least 6 feet 3 in. in height, and of very dignified and handsome appearance. He possesses an extraordinary charm of

X. Here read paragraphs on 'Shipping' and 'boat building', not printed, placed after print.



manner such as I have rarely seen in any man of any race.

'Abdullah bin Jiluwi, Ibn Sa'ud's cousin, is certainly the second most important man of the Sa'ud family. He was one of the faithful band who accompanied Ibn Sa'ud on the desperate venture which restored the throne of Riyadh to his family, and has ever since enjoyed and merited his unbounded confidence. He was appointed Governor of Qatif on the reconquest of that province from Ibn Rashid, and in 1914 was ordered to Hasa to create order out of the confusion left by the Turks, which he soon did. In fact before long he had made himself indispensable there - but for which fact, he would much prefer to lead a quiet life at home, as he is said to be absolutely unambitious. Several years older than Ibn Sa'ud, he is said to be a man of medium height and medium build, somewhat morose in appearance. He has earned an extraordinary reputation for justice.

Ikhwan, or 'Brethren', is the name assumed by the fanatical Wahhabi converts after the recent revival. It is not quite certain when this 'revival' first started, but the term "*Ikhwan*" first came into general use about the beginning of the War. It was then that Ibn Sa'ud decided to turn his attention to it as a means of strengthening and consolidating his power. The story goes that Ibn Jiluwi warned him against it and said "they would certainly make a useful weapon, but I fear that they may be like an automatic pistol which certainly fires fast, but with which there is a danger that when you put it in your belt it may go off and wound you". To this Ibn Sa'ud is said to have replied: "Don't be frightened of that, when I've done with my pistol, I'll unload it and throw the cartridges on the ground". He did realise however that it was vital to get the members of the new cult under control. In 1916 he issued his famous order that all Bedouins of Najd must join the movement. This led to much fighting, but by 1918 he had forced all except the *Ajman* to do so, and to recognize him as their *Imam*. In order to keep these tribes under his control, he induced his religious leaders to issue a *fatwa* that the *Ikhwan* should build themselves villages and till the soil, this being incumbent on them from a religious point of view. The order seems to have been responded to with enthusiasm in most cases. The progress of the movement was most cleverly managed, and Ibn Sa'ud showed great genius in working out the scheme without estranging the people. He himself selected the site for each *Ikhwan* village. With a tribe which was not of itself keen to join the movement his method seems to have been to send for the Sheikh and tell him in blunt terms that his tribe had no religion. He would then order the Sheikh to attend a course of instruction at a school of Religion. At the same time half a dozen selected instructors, attended by some genuine fanatic like Faisal ad-Dawish, would be sent off to the tribe. These would hold daily classes, and it rarely took them long to rouse the dormant fanaticism inherent in simple and savage people. These teachers insisted on all converts wearing a white turban over the kerchief in place of the head-robe (Ibn Sa'ud has since decreed that this is not necessary, and he himself always wears the head-robe). The strictest puritanism is the keynote of their religion, and the use of tobacco

is regarded by them as decidedly a sin as the drinking of alcohol. They themselves call Brethren, but like all new converts to any religion they are very intolerant. They will not even salute, or return the salute of, anyone outside their own sect, or even allow that he is a Muslim. I remember Sheikh Salim having one flogged for swaggering up to a shop-keeper in Kuwait and saying as he pointed to some of his wares "Ala cham, ya chafir? How much is it, infidel?".

Of the tribes most closely associated with Kuwait the most important are:—

The Mutair, a large tribe said to be of Hijaz origin, and closely akin to the Harb and the *'Utaibah*. Until they became *Ikhwan* the Mutair were one of the most typical Bedouin tribes of Central Arabia, with a range from near Kuwait town in the north, westward to the *Latif*, to *Qasim* and the northern part of *Hasa* in the south. Since their "conversion" however, the majority of them have settled, notably at *Artawiyah* (250 miles south, south-west of Kuwait, and 150 miles north, north-west of Riyadh), which is one of the most famous *Ikhwan* villages in Arabia, and the seat of the most powerful Sheikh of the tribe, the fanatical Faisal ad-Dawish. Another of their villages is *Jaryah* (125 miles south of Kuwait) the seat of Ibn Shuqair, the building of which in 1910 was one of the causes of the quarrel between Ibn Sa'ud and Sheikh Salim.

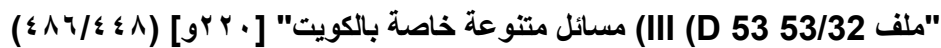
The original sections of the Mutair are only two, the *'Ilwsh* and the *Buraih*. But to these have been added in recent times, probably by a fission from the *Buraih*, a third section, the *Bani 'Abdallah*. During the struggle for supremacy at the beginning of the century the *Bani 'Abdallah* sided with Ibn Rashid while the majority of the tribe were partisans of Ibn Sa'ud. After the defeat of Ibn Rashid they rejoined the main body of the Mutair, but the reconciliation was only temporary, and they have separated themselves again, and left the tribe for the country between Najd and Mecca.

The 'Ilwsh consist of two sub-sections, the *Muwahab*, which is Faisal ad-Dawish's own sub-section, and of which the other chief Sheikhs are *Jufan al-Fuqm*, *Haif al-Fuqm* and *Ibn Ghunaiman*; and the *Jiblan*, of which the chief sheikhs are Faisal bin Shiblan and *Saihud bin Lami*.

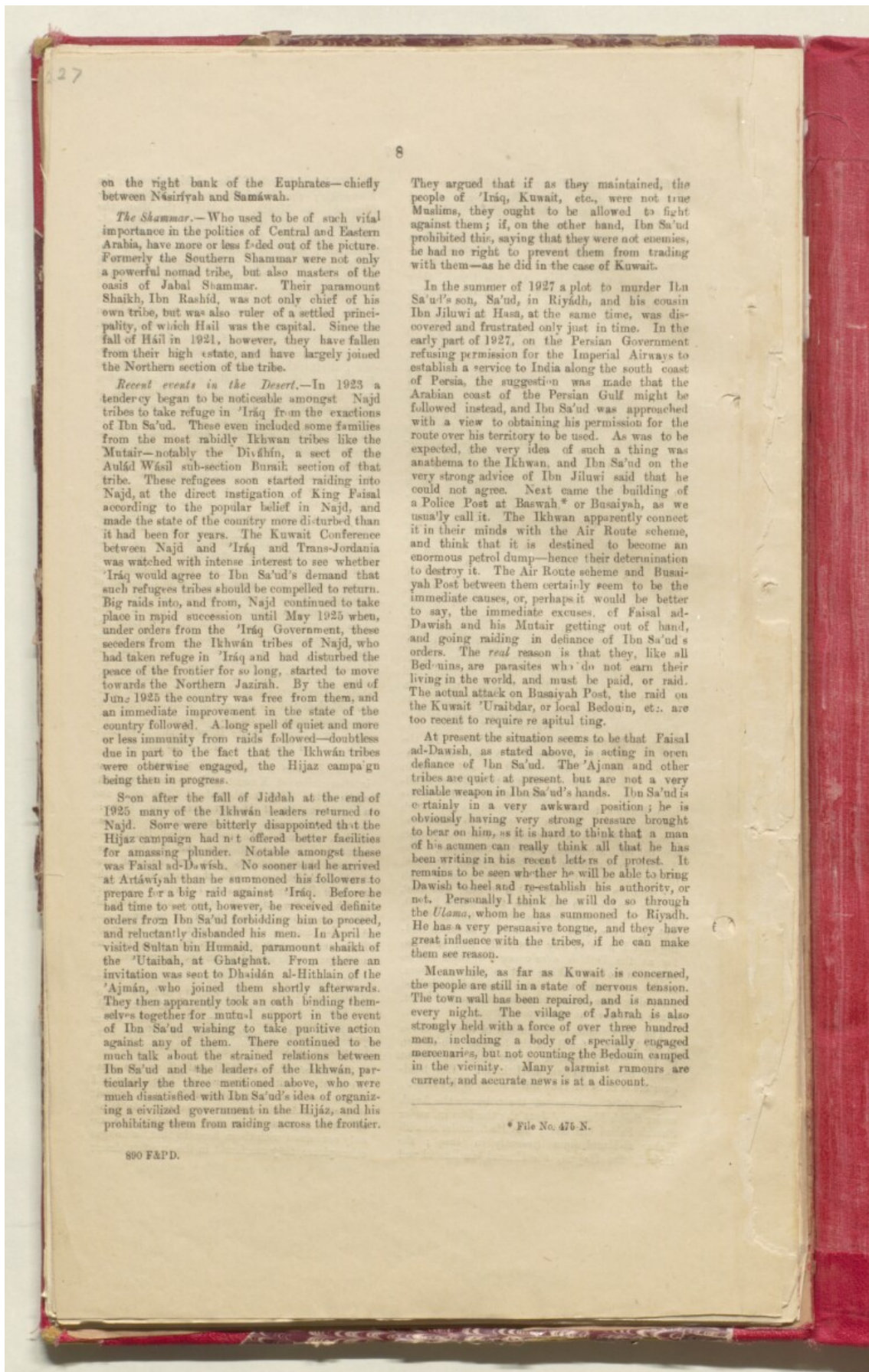
The Buraih are composed of three main sub-sections, the *Aulad Ali*, the *Aulad Wasil* and the *Birzan*, all of which are under the leadership of Ibn Musaiyis of the *Aulad Wasil*. To the *Birzan* belong the notorious family of *Ahmad Shuwairibat*, the members of which caused so much trouble to the peace of the frontier a few years ago.

The Mutair have suffered heavily in the recent wars, particularly at the battle of *Jahrh* in October 1920, and in the fighting outside *Hail* in September 1921, and it is probable that the total strength of the tribe does not now exceed 9,000 souls.

Faisal ad-Dawish's authority as paramount Sheikh of the Mutair has been much consolidated by the change of religion. The tribe, as is also the case with other *Ikhwan* tribes, is not now well armed.



The Muntafik.—Or "Muntafiq" as the name is officially spelt in English in 'Irāq, though I have never heard it pronounced that way, or spelt that way in Arabic—are a very large 'Irāq tribe, of which a portion are still Bedouin. We are only concerned with them here in that, amongst other places, they are found in the western desert



on the right bank of the Euphrates—chiefly between Nāsiriyah and Samāwah.

The Shammar.—Who used to be of such vital importance in the politics of Central and Eastern Arabia, have more or less faded out of the picture. Formerly the Southern Shammar were not only a powerful nomad tribe, but also masters of the oasis of Jabal Shammar. Their paramount Shaikh, Ibn Rashid, was not only chief of his own tribe, but was also ruler of a settled principality, of which Hail was the capital. Since the fall of Hail in 1921, however, they have fallen from their high estate, and have largely joined the Northern section of the tribe.

Recent events in the Desert.—In 1923 a tendency began to be noticeable amongst Najd tribes to take refuge in 'Irāq from the exactions of Ibn Sa'ud. These even included some families from the most rabidly Ikhwan tribes like the Mutair—notably the Divāhīn, a sect of the Aulād Wāsil sub-section Buraih section of that tribe. These refugees soon started raiding into Najd, at the direct instigation of King Faisal according to the popular belief in Najd, and made the state of the country more disturbed than it had been for years. The Kuwait Conference between Najd and 'Irāq and Trans-Jordan was watched with intense interest to see whether 'Irāq would agree to Ibn Sa'ud's demand that such refugees tribes should be compelled to return. Big raids into, and from, Najd continued to take place in rapid succession until May 1925 when, under orders from the 'Irāq Government, these seceders from the Ikhwan tribes of Najd, who had taken refuge in 'Irāq and had disturbed the peace of the frontier for so long, started to move towards the Northern Jazīrah. By the end of June 1925 the country was free from them, and an immediate improvement in the state of the country followed. A long spell of quiet and more or less immunity from raids followed—doubtless due in part to the fact that the Ikhwan tribes were otherwise engaged, the Hijaz campaign being then in progress.

Soon after the fall of Jiddah at the end of 1925 many of the Ikhwan leaders returned to Najd. Some were bitterly disappointed that the Hijaz campaign had not offered better facilities for amassing plunder. Notable amongst these was Faisal ad-Dawish. No sooner had he arrived at Artāwiyah than he summoned his followers to prepare for a big raid against 'Irāq. Before he had time to set out, however, he received definite orders from Ibn Sa'ud forbidding him to proceed, and reluctantly disbanded his men. In April he visited Sultan bin Humaid, paramount shaikh of the 'Utaibah, at Ghatghat. From there an invitation was sent to Dhaidān al-Hithlain of the 'Ajman, who joined them shortly afterwards. They then apparently took an oath binding themselves together for mutual support in the event of Ibn Sa'ud wishing to take punitive action against any of them. There continued to be much talk about the strained relations between Ibn Sa'ud and the leaders of the Ikhwan, particularly the three mentioned above, who were much dissatisfied with Ibn Sa'ud's idea of organizing a civilized government in the Hijaz, and his prohibiting them from raiding across the frontier.

They argued that if as they maintained, the people of 'Irāq, Kuwait, etc., were not true Muslims, they ought to be allowed to fight against them; if, on the other hand, Ibn Sa'ud prohibited this, saying that they were not enemies, he had no right to prevent them from trading with them—as he did in the case of Kuwait.

In the summer of 1927 a plot to murder Ibn Sa'ud's son, Sa'ud, in Riyādh, and his cousin Ibn Jiluwi at Hasa, at the same time, was discovered and frustrated only just in time. In the early part of 1927, on the Persian Government refusing permission for the Imperial Airways to establish a service to India along the south coast of Persia, the suggestion was made that the Arabian coast of the Persian Gulf might be followed instead, and Ibn Sa'ud was approached with a view to obtaining his permission for the route over his territory to be used. As was to be expected, the very idea of such a thing was anathema to the Ikhwan, and Ibn Sa'ud on the very strong advice of Ibn Jiluwi said that he could not agree. Next came the building of a Police Post at Baswah* or Busaiyah, as we usually call it. The Ikhwan apparently connect it in their minds with the Air Route scheme, and think that it is destined to become an enormous petrol dump—hence their determination to destroy it. The Air Route scheme and Busaiyah Post between them certainly seem to be the immediate causes, or perhaps it would be better to say, the immediate excuses, of Faisal ad-Dawish and his Mutair getting out of hand, and going raiding in defiance of Ibn Sa'ud's orders. The real reason is that they, like all Bedouins, are parasites who do not earn their living in the world, and must be paid, or raid. The actual attack on Busaiyah Post, the raid on the Kuwait 'Uraibdar, or local Bedouin, etc., are too recent to require recapitulating.

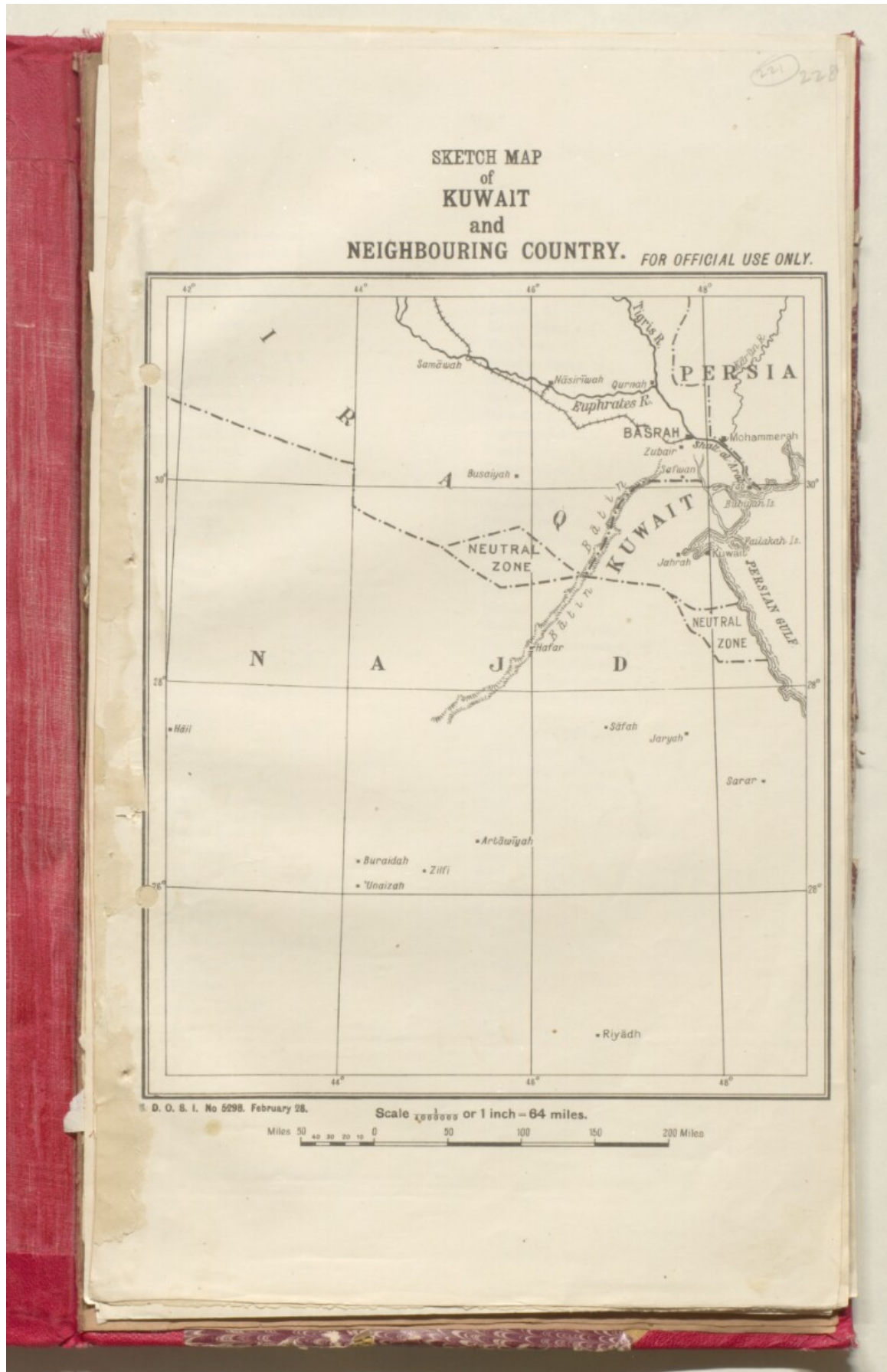
At present the situation seems to be that Faisal ad-Dawish, as stated above, is acting in open defiance of Ibn Sa'ud. The 'Ajman and other tribes are quiet at present, but are not a very reliable weapon in Ibn Sa'ud's hands. Ibn Sa'ud is certainly in a very awkward position; he is obviously having very strong pressure brought to bear on him, as it is hard to think that a man of his acumen can really think all that he has been writing in his recent letters of protest. It remains to be seen whether he will be able to bring Dawish to heel and re-establish his authority, or not. Personally I think he will do so through the Ulama, whom he has summoned to Riyādh. He has a very persuasive tongue, and they have great influence with the tribes, if he can make them see reason.

Meanwhile, as far as Kuwait is concerned, the people are still in a state of nervous tension. The town wall has been repaired, and is manned every night. The village of Jahrah is also strongly held with a force of over three hundred men, including a body of specially engaged mercenaries, but not counting the Bedouin camped in the vicinity. Many alarmist rumours are current, and accurate news is at a discount.

* File No. 476 N.

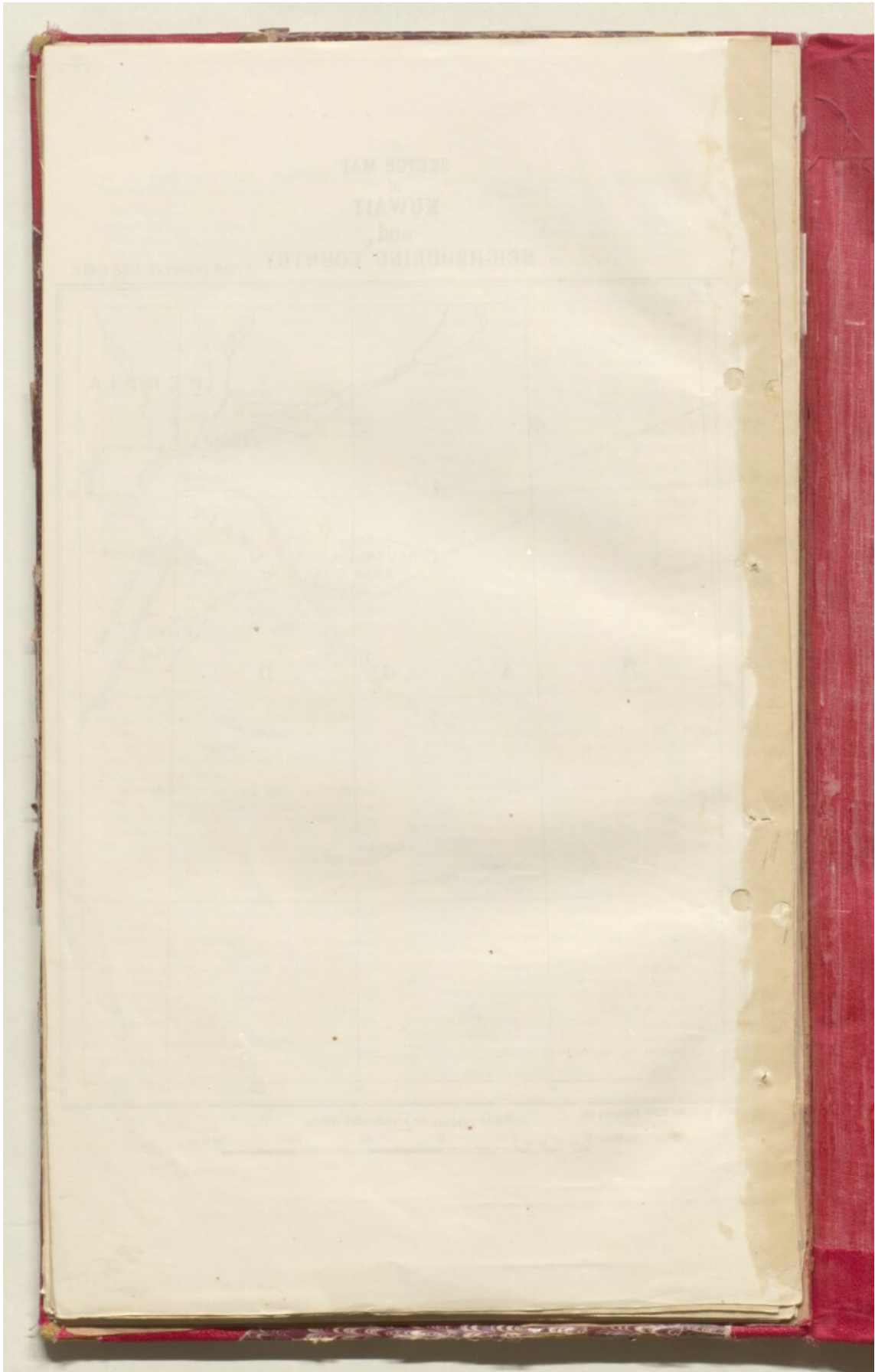


"خريطة مبدئية للكويت والدولة المجاورة لها" [٢٢١ و] (٢/١)





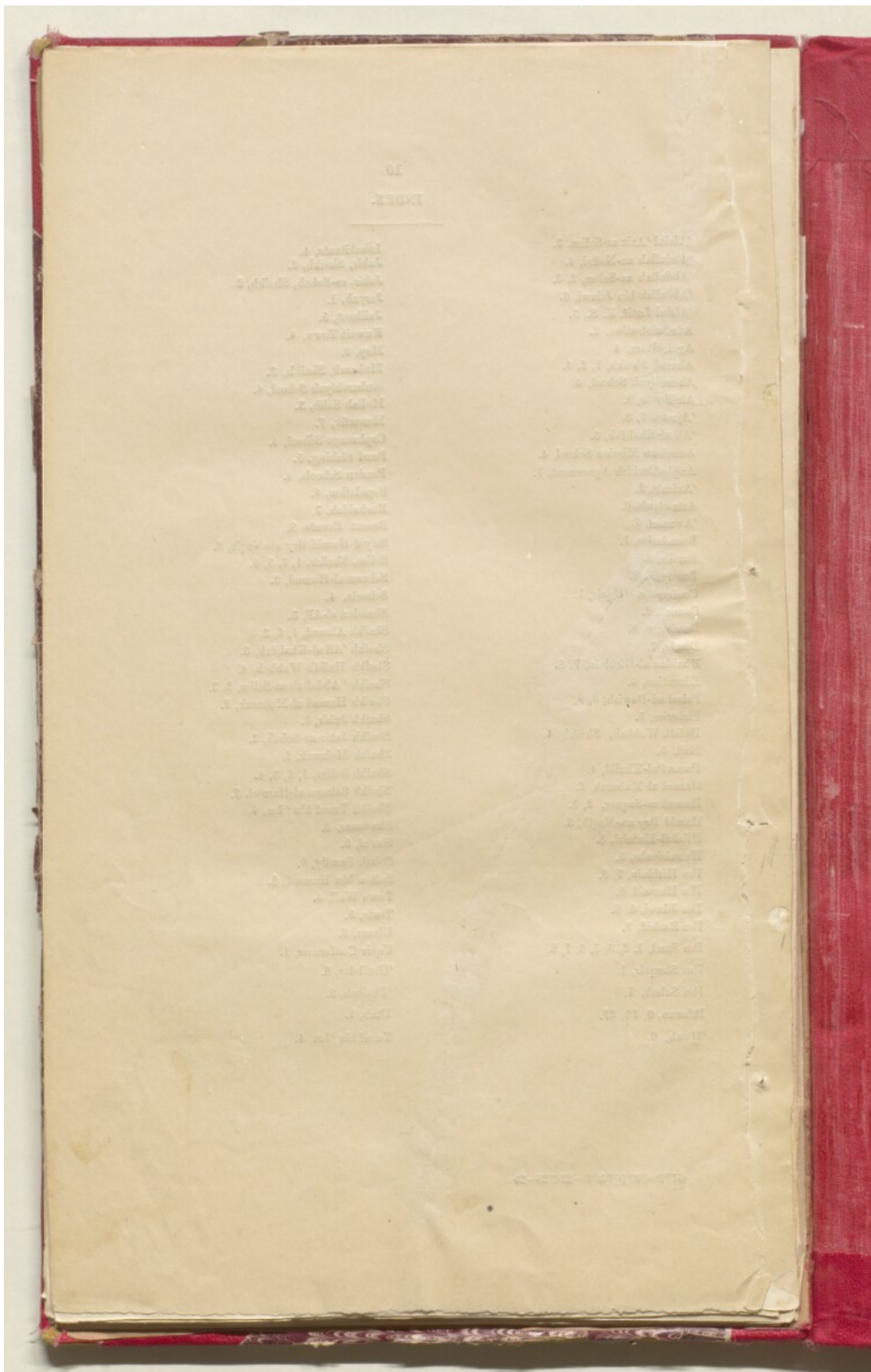
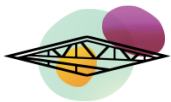
"خريطة مبدئية للكويت والدولة المجاورة لها" [٢٢١ظ] (٢/٢)





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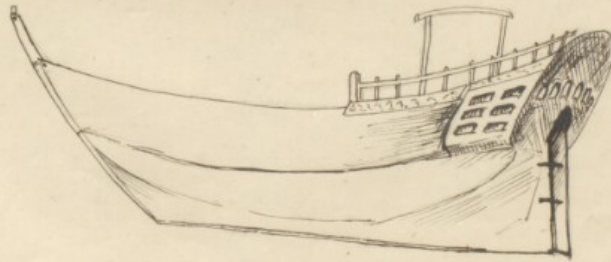


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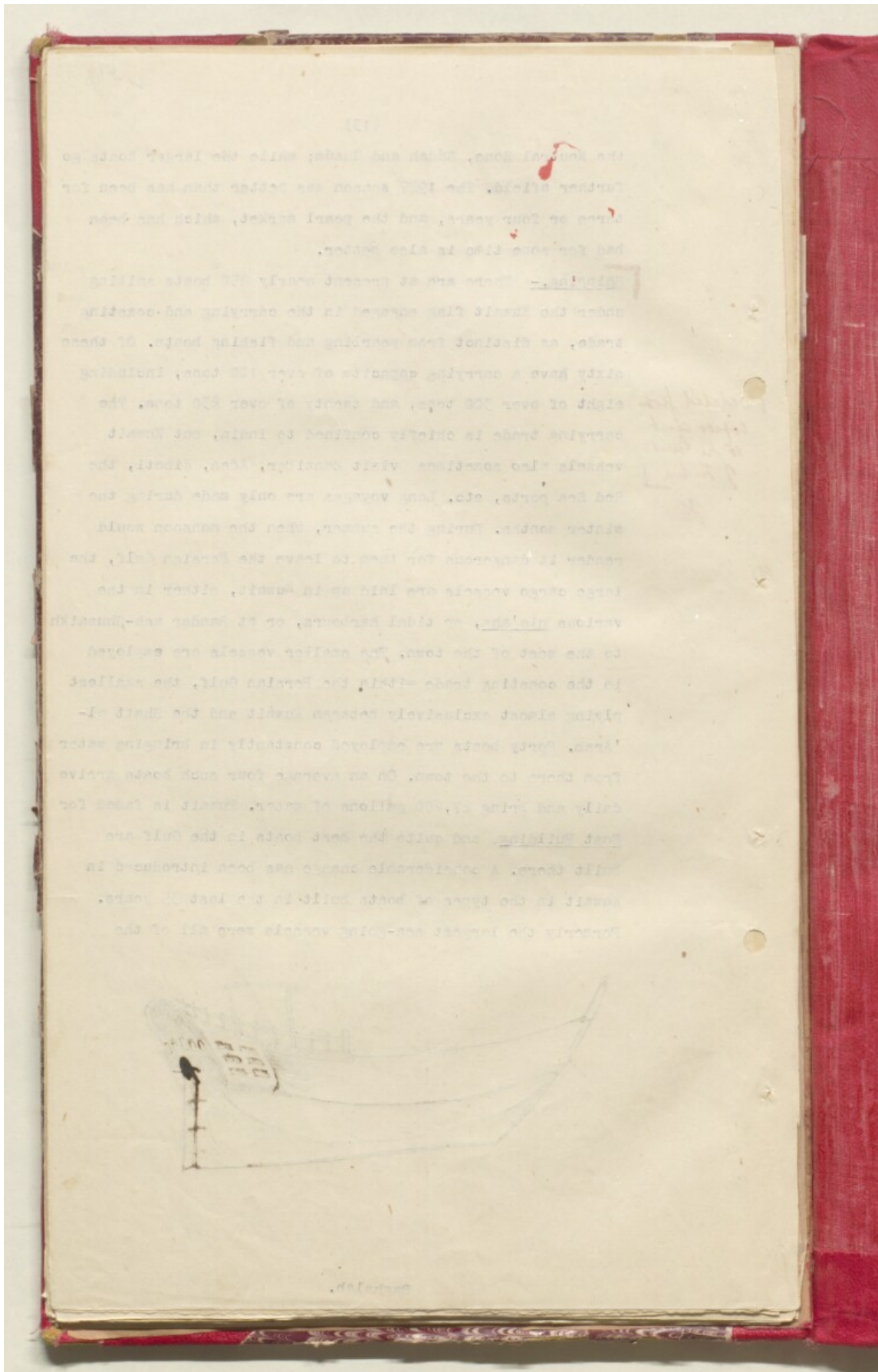
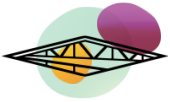
the Neutral Zone, Súdah and Huzúm; while the larger boats go further afield. The 1927 season was better than has been for three or four years, and the pearl market, which has been bad for some time is also better.

Shipping.— There are at present nearly 250 boats sailing under the Kuwait flag engaged in the carrying and coasting trade, as distinct from pearling and fishing boats. Of these sixty have a carrying capacity of over 100 tons, including eight of over 300 tons, and twenty of over 230 tons. The carrying trade is chiefly confined to India, but Kuwait vessels also sometimes visit Zanzibar, Aden, Jibuti, the Red Sea ports, etc. Long voyages are only made during the winter months. During the summer, when the monsoon would render it dangerous for them to leave the Persian Gulf, the large cargo vessels are laid up in Kuwait, either in the various nic'ahs, or tidal harbours, or at Bandar ash-Shuwaikh to the west of the town. The smaller vessels are employed in the coasting trade within the Persian Gulf, the smallest plying almost exclusively between Kuwait and the Shatt al-'Arab. Forty boats are employed constantly in bringing water from there to the town. On an average four such boats arrive daily and bring 27,200 gallons of water. Kuwait is famed for Boat Building, and quite the best boats in the Gulf are built there. A considerable change has been introduced in Kuwait in the types of boats built in the last 35 years. Formerly the largest sea-going vessels were all of the

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copies sent
to the Govt.
of India*



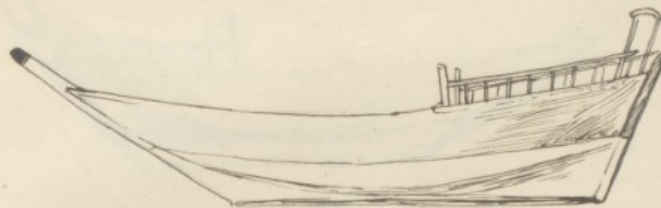
Baghalah.





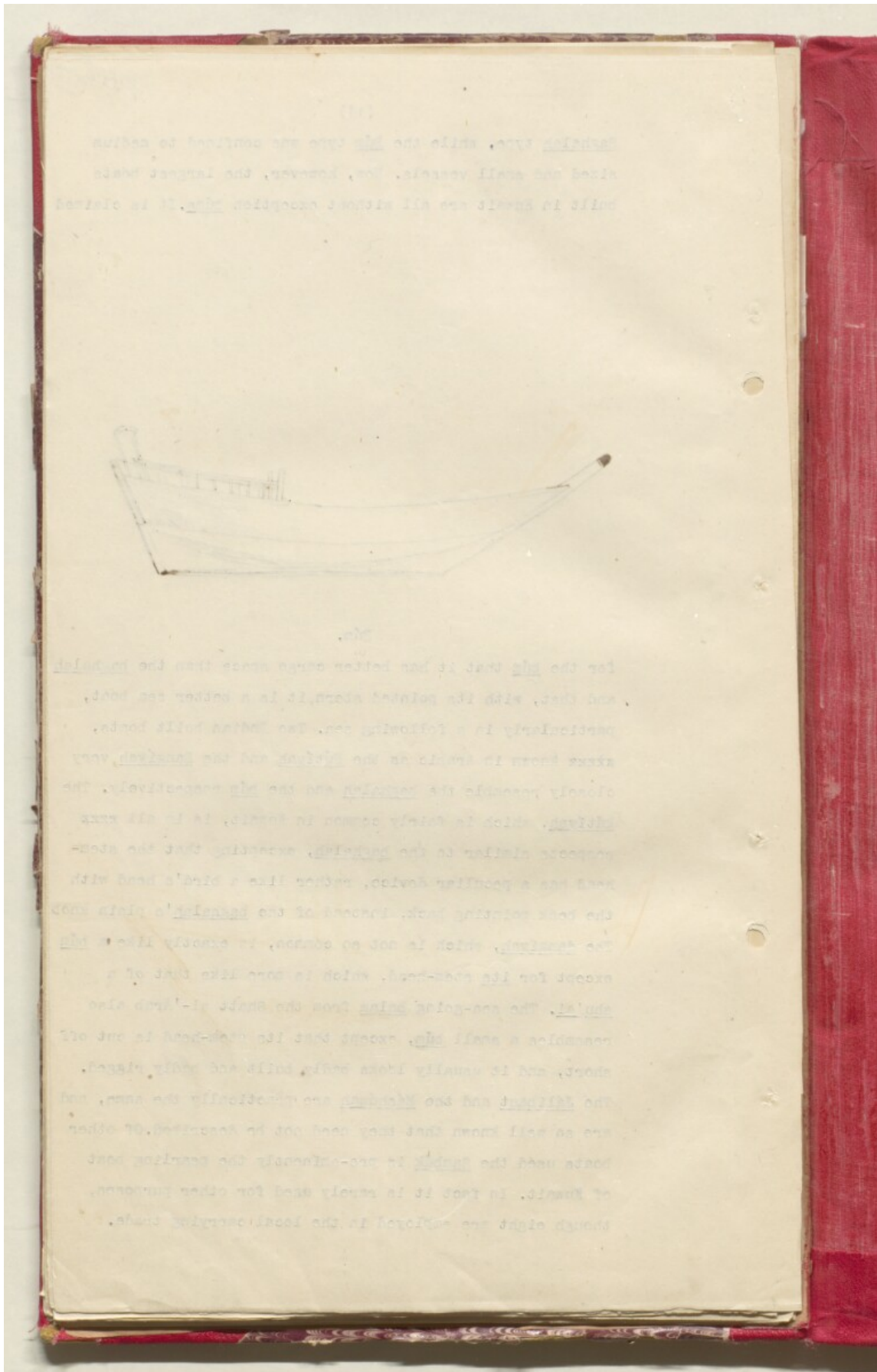
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Baghalah type, while the Búm type was confined to medium sized and small vessels. Now, however, the largest boats built in Kuwait are all without exception búm. It is claimed



Búm.

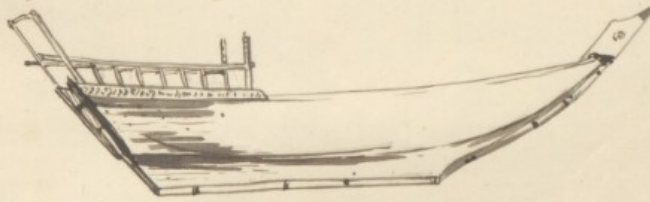
for the búm that it has better cargo space than the baghalah and that, with its pointed stern, it is a better sea boat, particularly in a following sea. Two Indian built boats, ~~xxxx~~ known in Arabic as the Kútíyah and the Dangíyah, very closely resemble the baghalah and the búm respectively. The kútíyah, which is fairly common in Kuwait, is in all ~~resp~~ respects similar to the baghalah, excepting that the stem-head has a peculiar device, rather like a bird's head with the beak pointing back, instead of the baghalah's plain knob. The dangíyah, which is not so common, is exactly like a búm except for its stem-head, which is more like that of a shu'ai. The sea-going balam from the Shatt al-'Arab also resembles a small búm, except that its stem-head is out off short, and it usually looks badly built and badly rigged. The Jálibaut and the Máshúwah are practically the same, and are so well known that they need not be described. Of other boats used the Sambúk is pre-eminently the pearling boat of Kuwait. In fact it is rarely used for other purposes, though eight are employed in the local carrying trade.





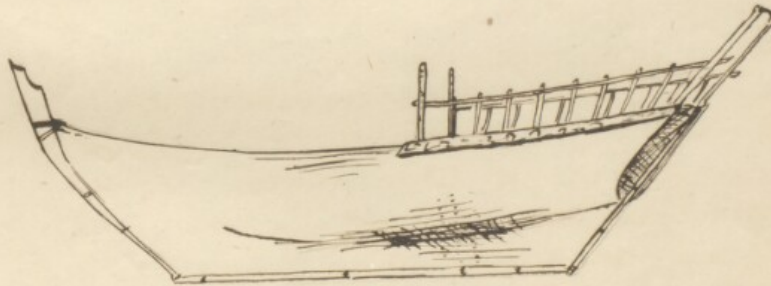
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Its square stern is said to make it more suitable for the frequent turning that is required at the pearl banks than is a boat of the būm type, which is hardly ever seen there except as a dealer's boat.



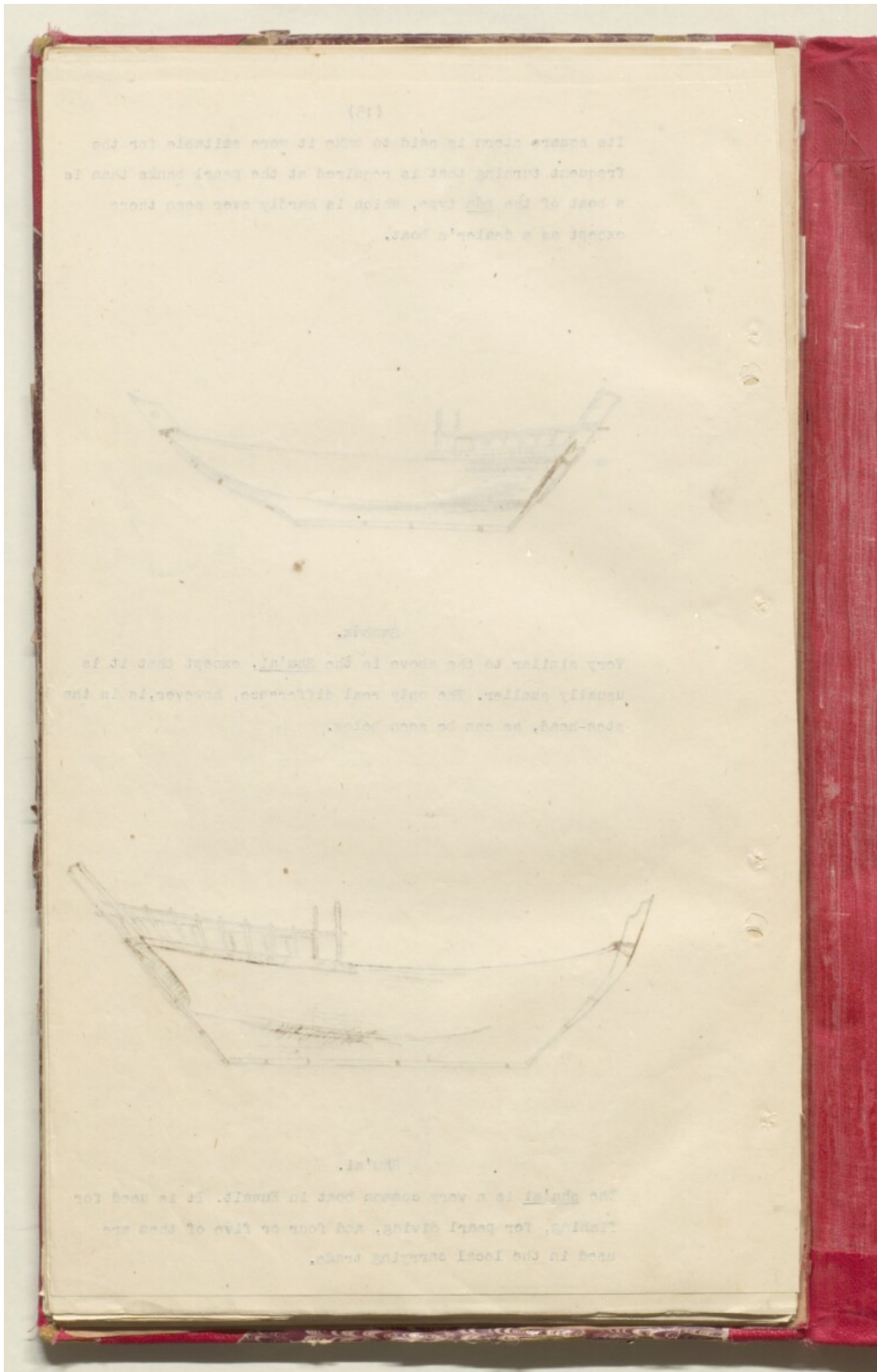
Sambūk.

Very similar to the above is the Shu'ai, except that it is usually smaller. The only real difference, however, is in the stem-head, as can be seen below.



Shu'ai.

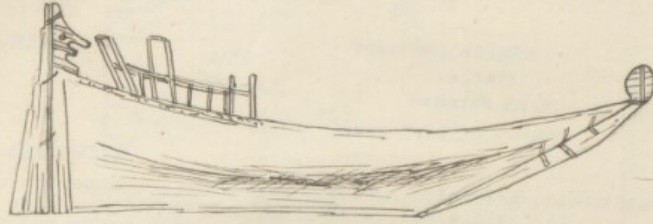
The shu'ai is a very common boat in Kuwait. It is used for fishing, for pearl diving, and four or five of them are used in the local carrying trade.





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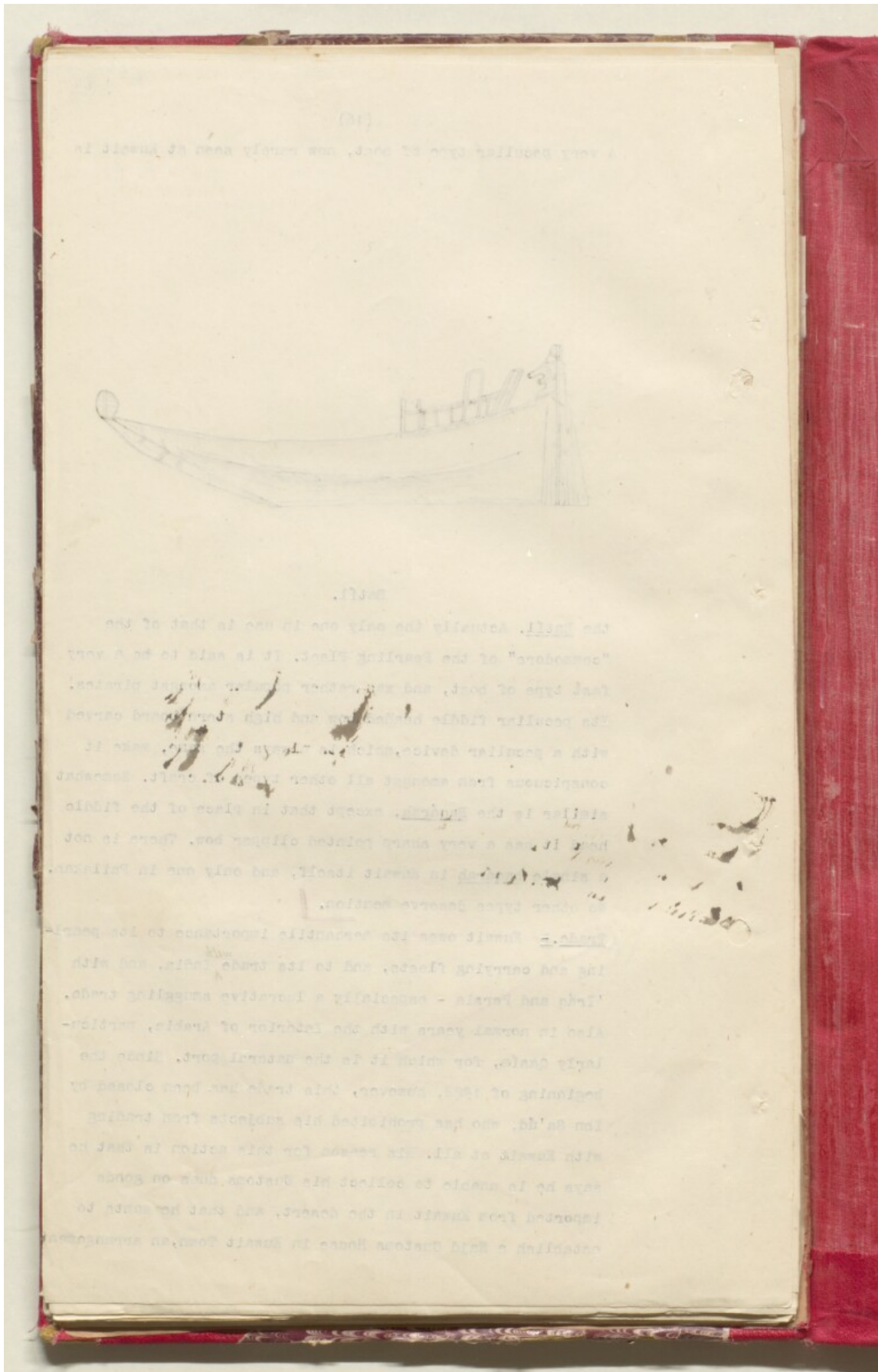
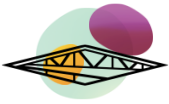
A very peculiar type of boat, now rarely seen at Kuwait is

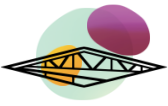


Batfi.

the Batfi. Actually the only one in use is that of the "commodore" of the Pearling Fleet. It is said to be a very fast type of boat, and was rather popular amongst pirates. Its peculiar fiddle headed bow and high stern board carved with a peculiar device, which is always the same, make it conspicuous from amongst all other types of craft. Somewhat similar is the Baqarah, except that in place of the fiddle head it has a very sharp pointed clipper bow. There is not a single baqarah in Kuwait itself, and only one in Failakah. No other types deserve mention.

~~Trade. - Kuwait owes its mercantile importance to its pearling and carrying fleets, and to its trade ^{with} India, and with 'Iraq and Persia - especially a lucrative smuggling trade. Also in normal years with the Interior of Arabia, particularly Qasim, for which it is the natural port. Since the beginning of 1922, however, this trade has been closed by Ibn Sa'ud, who has prohibited his subjects from trading with Kuwait at all. His reason for this action is that he says he is unable to collect his Customs dues on goods imported from Kuwait in the desert, and that he wants to establish a Najd Customs House in Kuwait Town, an arrangement~~





53/32. *Handwritten: 27.12.27*

CONFIDENTIAL.

D.O. No. 239-S.

BUSHIRE RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 1178
Date 27.12.27.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

**POLITICAL AGENCY,
KUWAIT,
PERSIAN GULF.**

21st December 1927.

Handwritten: 23/12/27

Handwritten: 53/32, A. 2.

Dear Colonel,

You may remember that when you were returning Shaikh Ahmad's call on your recent visit here, the subject of drilling for water came up in conversation. I mentioned that Mr. Armstrong had told me that very day that he had reached a certain depth, and the Shaikh was surprised at what I said, as he had been told a different depth.

You will have seen from my last Diary that "drilling operations have had to be stopped temporarily, pending the receipt of a further supply of piping from England".

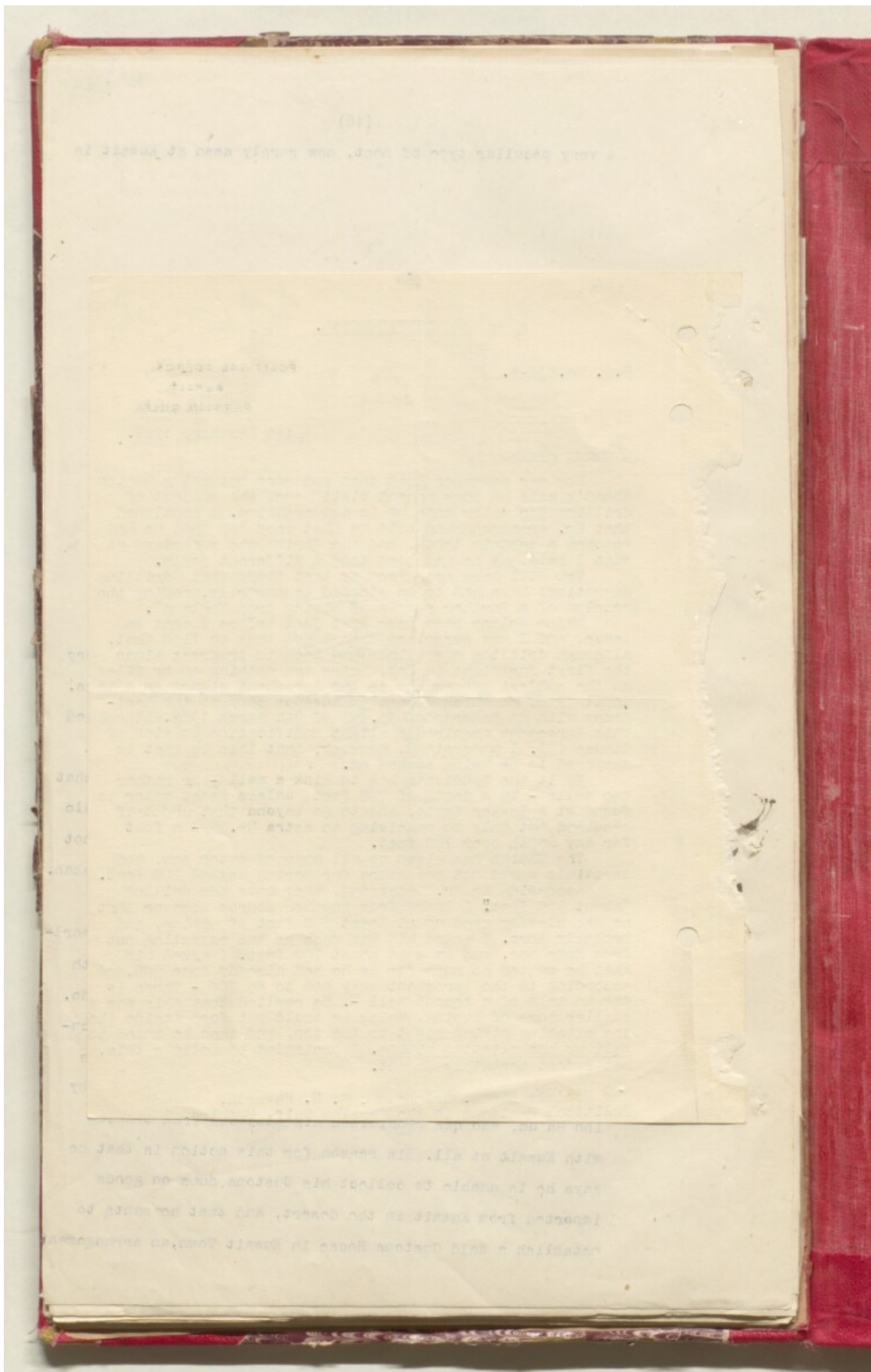
Major Holmes came here last just before I went on leave, and I was surprised when I got back to find that, although drilling operations had been in progress since the first fortnight in May, there was nothing on my files on the subject subsequent to the Agreement signed on 13th April 1926, of which I sent an advance copy to the Residency with my memorandum No. 392 of 8th March 1926, although this Agreement required a slight modification in view of Clause (3). I understand, however, that this is what is supposed to be being worked on.

By it the Syndicate has to sink a well - or rather two wells - to a depth of 700 feet, unless sweet water is found at a lesser depth, and to go beyond that depth if required, but only on receiving an extra Rs. 50/- a foot for any depth over 700 feet.

The Shaikh has given up all hope of water now, and certainly would not pay extra for boring beyond 700 feet.

According to Mr. Armstrong, they have now drilled "about 500 feet". I learn from another source however that he has already used up at least 850 feet of piping, and probably more. I asked him how much he was expecting out from Home now, and he said about 700 feet. I asked him what he wanted so much for as he had already done 500, and according to the Agreement only had to do 700 - There is now no talk of a second well -. He replied that this was a smaller bore of piping, which he would put down inside the existing piping right to the top, and then he hoped to pull up the existing piping. I pretended to believe this, but I most certainly do not.

The Hon'ble Lieut. Colonel L. B. H. Haworth,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf, Bushire.





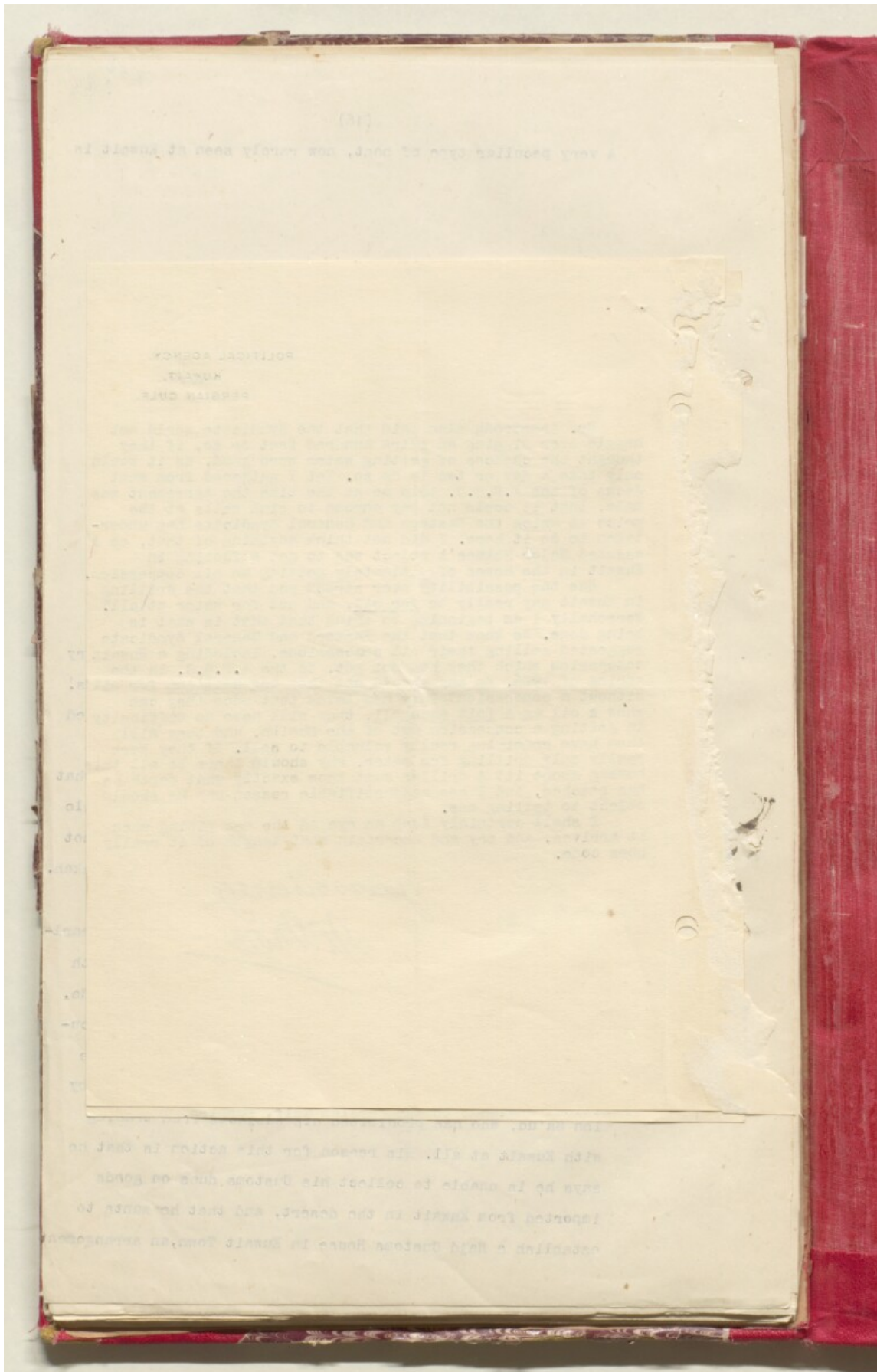
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KUWAIT.
PERSIAN GULF.

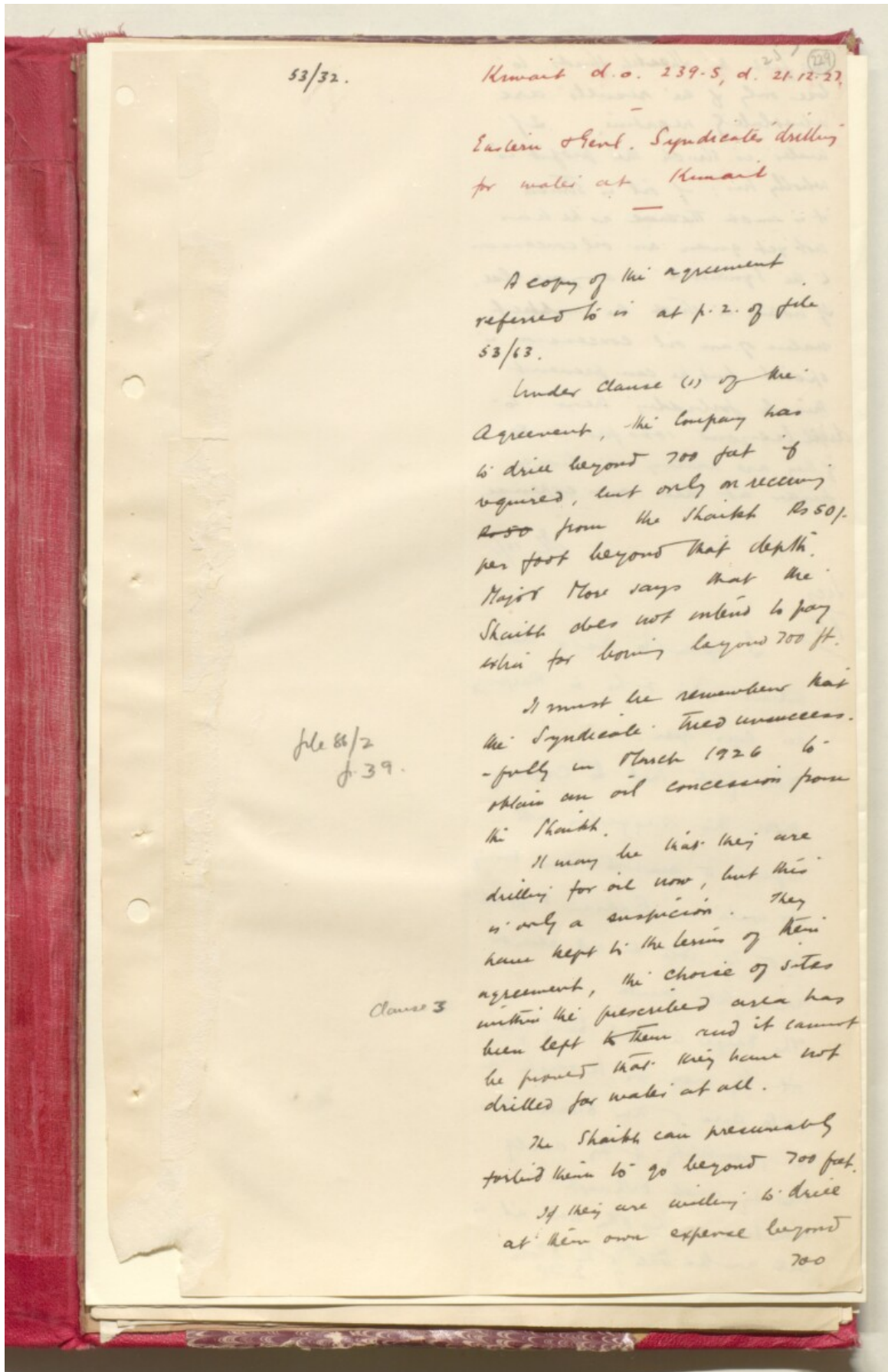
Mr. Armstrong also said that the Syndicate would not haggle over digging an extra hundred feet or so, if they thought the chances of getting water were good, as it would only take a day or two to do so. Yet I gathered from what Jacks of the A.P.O.C. told me at the time the Agreement was made, that it could not pay anyone to sink wells at the price at which the Eastern and General Syndicate has undertaken to do it here. I did not think anything of that, as I assumed Major Holmes's object was to get a footing in Kuwait in the hopes of ultimately getting an oil concession. Has the possibility ever struck you that the drilling in Kuwait may really be for oil, and not for water at all? Personally I am beginning to think that that is what is being done. We know that the Eastern and General Syndicate suggested selling their oil concessions, including a Kuwait concession which they had not got, to the A.P.O.C. in the spring of 1926. So why should not they try drilling for oil without a concession? They may think that once they can show a oil as a fait accompli, they will have no difficulty in getting a concession out of the Shaikh, and they will then have something really valuable to sell. If they were really only drilling for water, why should there be all this humbug about it? A driller must know exactly what depth he has reached, and I see no justifiable reason why he should object to telling one.

I shall certainly keep an eye on the new piping when it arrives, and try and ascertain what length of it really does come.

*file 86/1, p. 42.

yours sincerely
J.C. Moore





53/32.

Kumail d.o. 239-S, d. 21.12.27.

Eastern & Genl. Syndicates drilling
for water at Kumail

A copy of this agreement
referred to is at p. 2. of file
53/63.

Under clause (1) of the
Agreement, the Company has
to drill beyond 700 feet if
required, but only on receiving
Rs 50/- from the Shaikh Rs 50/-
per foot beyond that depth.
Major More says that the
Shaikh does not intend to pay
them for boring beyond 700 ft.

file 86/2
p. 39.

I must be somewhere that
the Syndicate tried unsuccess-
fully in March 1926 to
obtain an oil concession from
the Shaikh.

It may be that they are
drilling for oil now, but this
is only a suspicion. They
have kept to the terms of their
agreement, the choice of sites
within the prescribed area has
been left to them and it cannot
be proved that they have not
drilled for water at all.

The Shaikh can presumably
forbid them to go beyond 700 feet.

If they are willing to drill
at their own expense beyond
700



Too fast he should stand to
lose only if he results are
absolutely negative. If
water is struck the profit is
wholly his; if oil is struck
it is much the same as he has
not yet given an oil concession
to the Syndicate or anyone else.
If nothing is struck the market
value of an oil concession is
spoiled but he can prevent
this by forbidding them to
drill beyond 1000 feet or so,
if they are willing to bore
further at their own expense.

R 13/

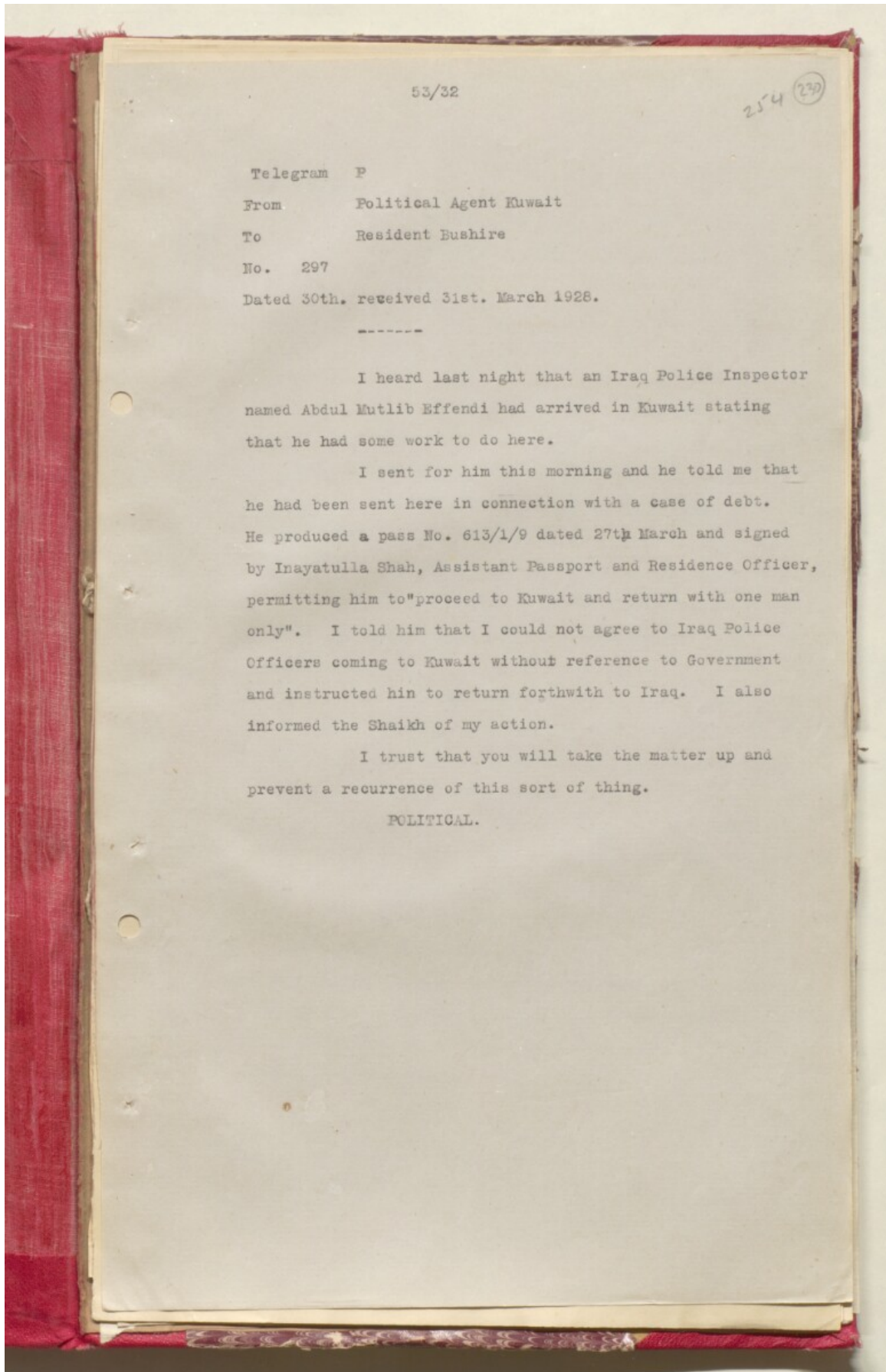
Dec

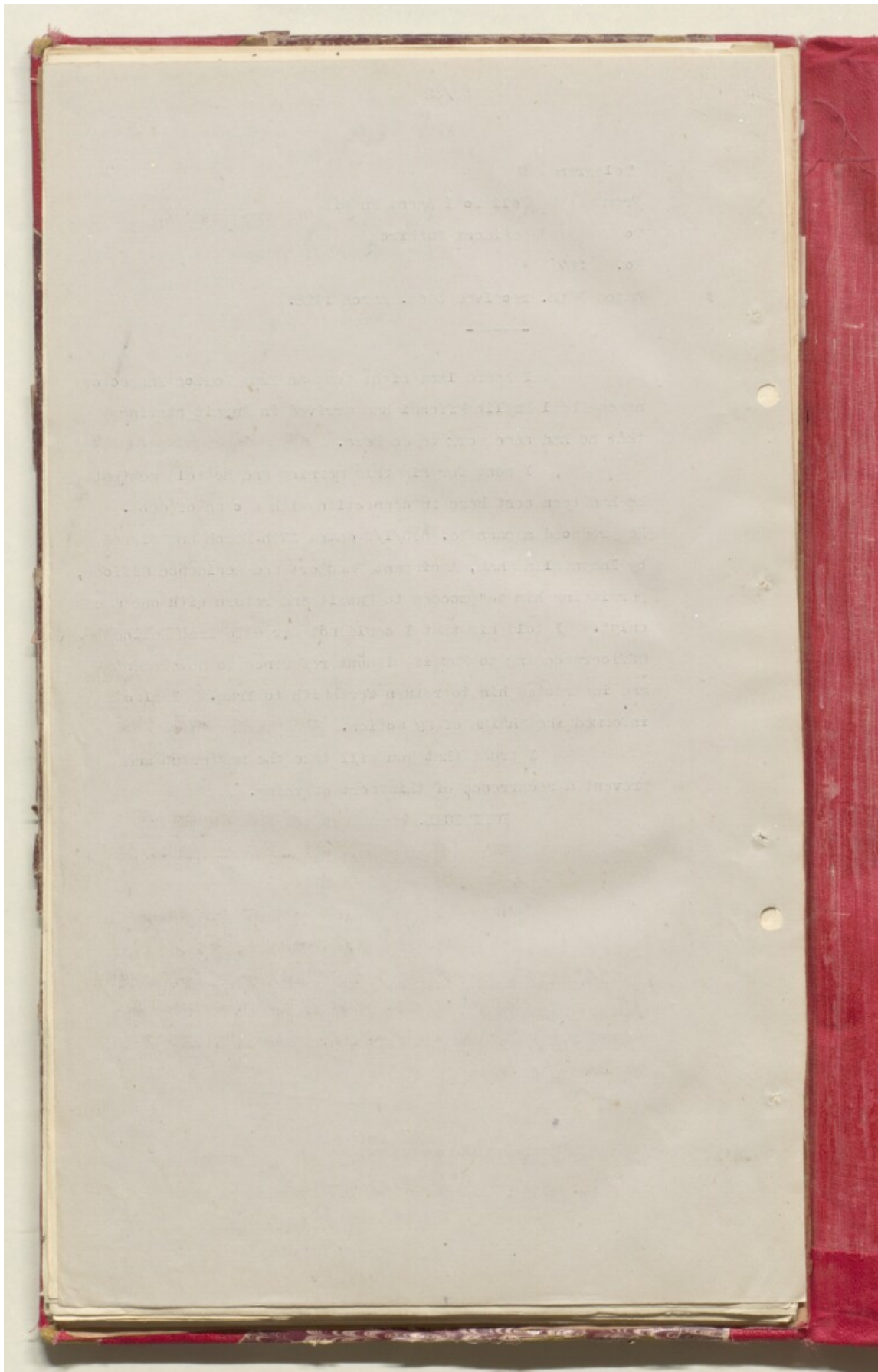
P.R.

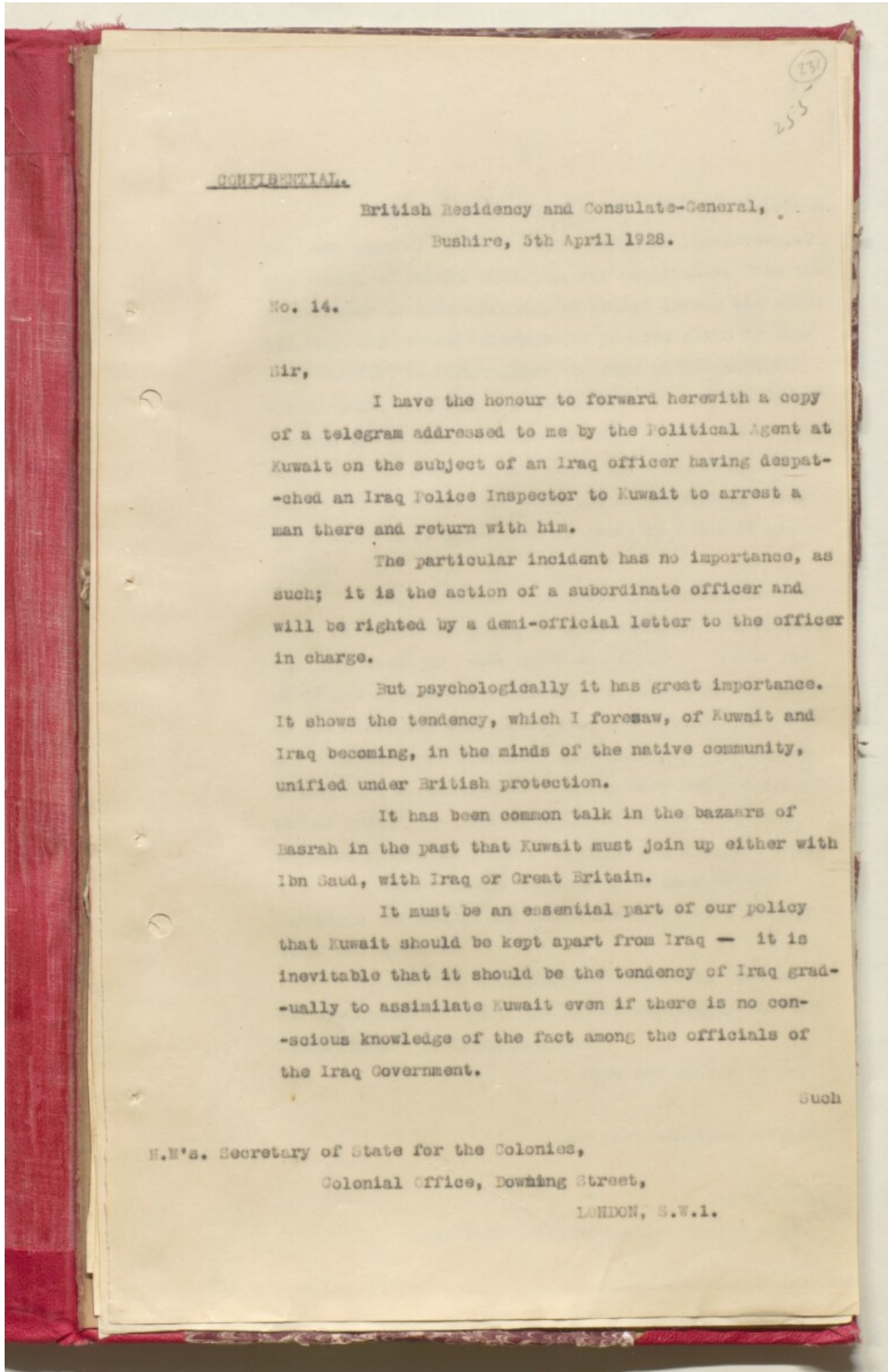
I spoke to Major Mac
about this & he is keeping
his eyes open.

The fact that the Company
made this suggestion with
regard to Messrs. others boring
for water in Bahrain suggests
that the idea is not absent
from their minds.

The danger is that boring for
oil may go through a
water area & then drain it is
a possibility. If they really
have any such intention
indication a big other hand oil is
worth making out of the State
7.228







CONFIDENTIAL.

British Residency and Consulate-General,

Bushire, 5th April 1928.

No. 14.

Sir,

I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of a telegram addressed to me by the Political Agent at Kuwait on the subject of an Iraq officer having despatched an Iraq Police Inspector to Kuwait to arrest a man there and return with him.

The particular incident has no importance, as such; it is the action of a subordinate officer and will be righted by a demi-official letter to the officer in charge.

But psychologically it has great importance. It shows the tendency, which I foresaw, of Kuwait and Iraq becoming, in the minds of the native community, unified under British protection.

It has been common talk in the bazaars of Basrah in the past that Kuwait must join up either with Ibn Saud, with Iraq or Great Britain.

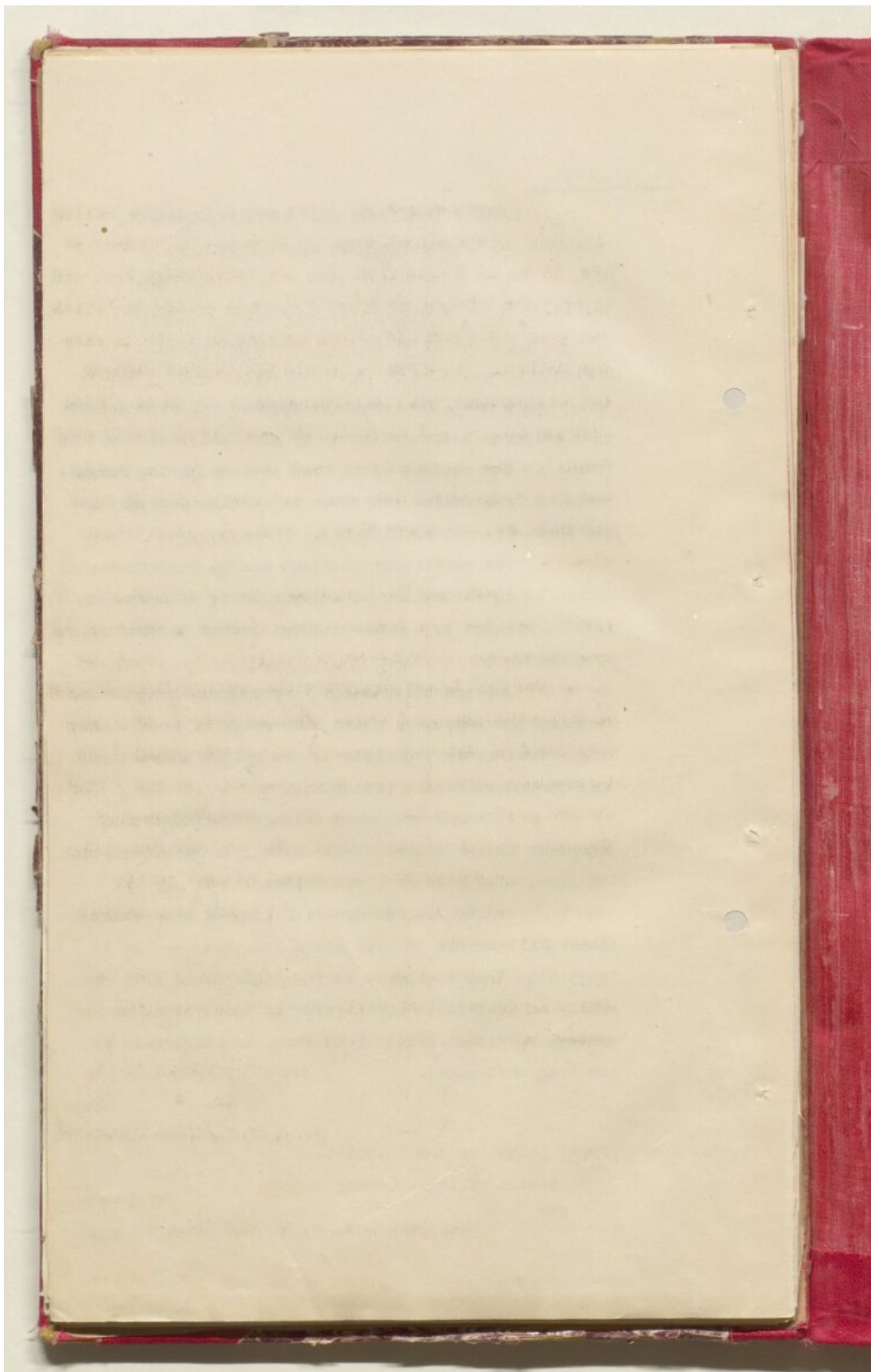
It must be an essential part of our policy that Kuwait should be kept apart from Iraq — it is inevitable that it should be the tendency of Iraq gradually to assimilate Kuwait even if there is no conscious knowledge of the fact among the officials of the Iraq Government.

Such

H.M.'s Secretary of State for the Colonies,

Colonial Office, Downing Street,

LONDON, S.W.1.





Such tendencies result not from direct action but from psychological factors, from the dependence of the Shaikh of Kuwait upon Iraq for assistance, from the appointment of Iraq officers to Kuwait during the raids and from the common interests of peoples alike in race and religion, dependent upon the same market centres and in constant daily communication. It is indeed perhaps the natural development that Kuwait should draw close to Iraq while we are there but we do not desire her to get so close that with the development of time she will be left there when we leave in spite of our wishes.

Hence the last paragraph in my telegram No. 7, dated 11th February 1928, to your address (repeated to the Government of India under No. 137). It is for us to see that where avoidable the psychological factors do not arise, and that where they are natural that they are checked; that such help as Kuwait may require may be obtained by assistance from our Navy and the training of her people — and it would be better that such training should be given from India and not from Iraq.

Kuwait should be trained to look to His Majesty's Government and India alone, not to a country under our mandate.

Copies of this despatch are being sent to the Government of India and to His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq, Baghdad.

(a) Under instr. no. 138-S, d. 5.4.28.
(b) " " " 139-S " "
To P.A. Kuwait " " " 140-S " "

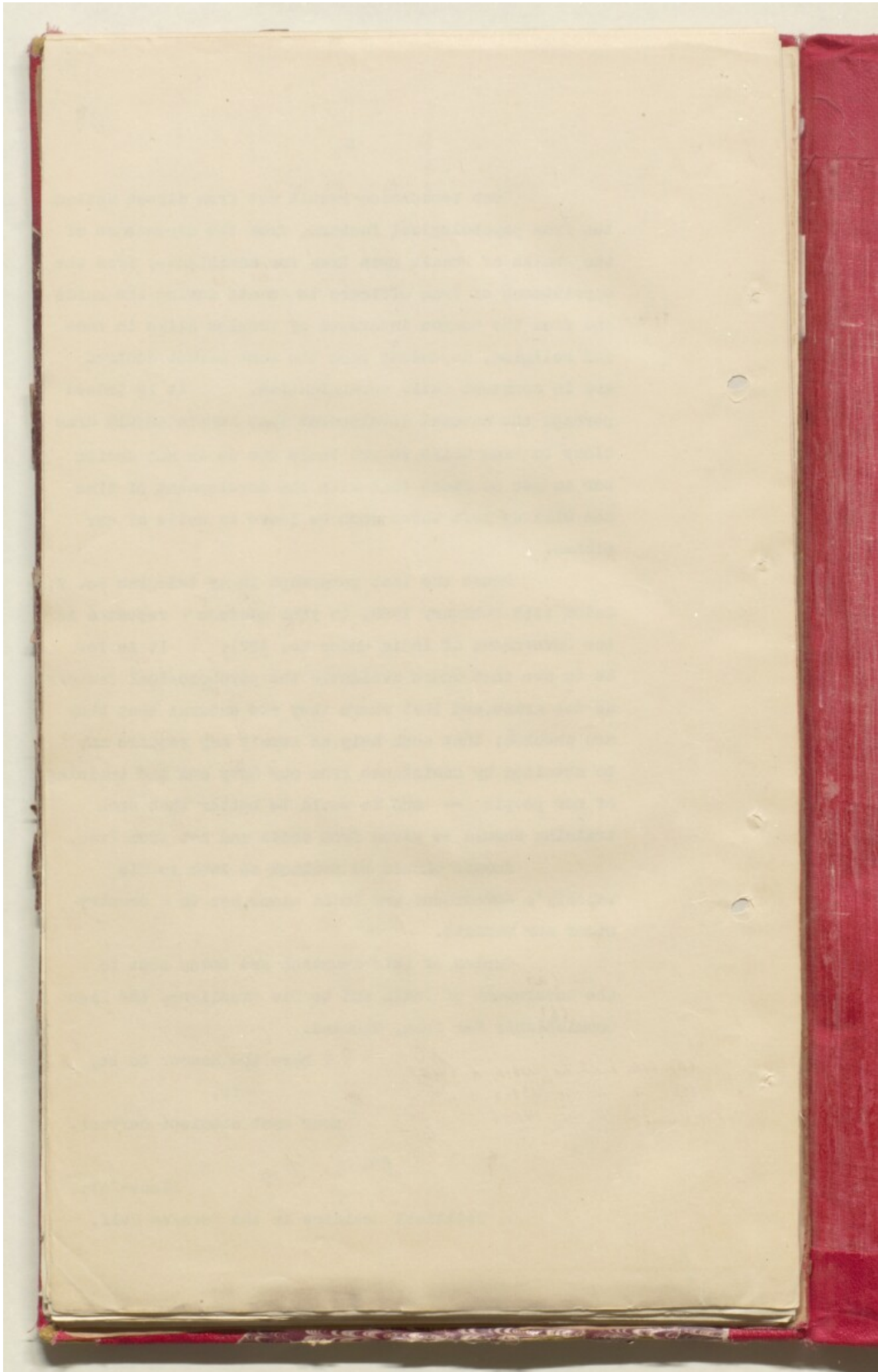
I have the honour to be,

Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

Lieut-Col.,

Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.





53/32 239 259

BUSINESS RESIDENCY
Reg. No. 512
Date 14.5.28
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

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Confidential.
No. S.O. 1088

The Residency,
Baghdad, dated 4th May, 1928.

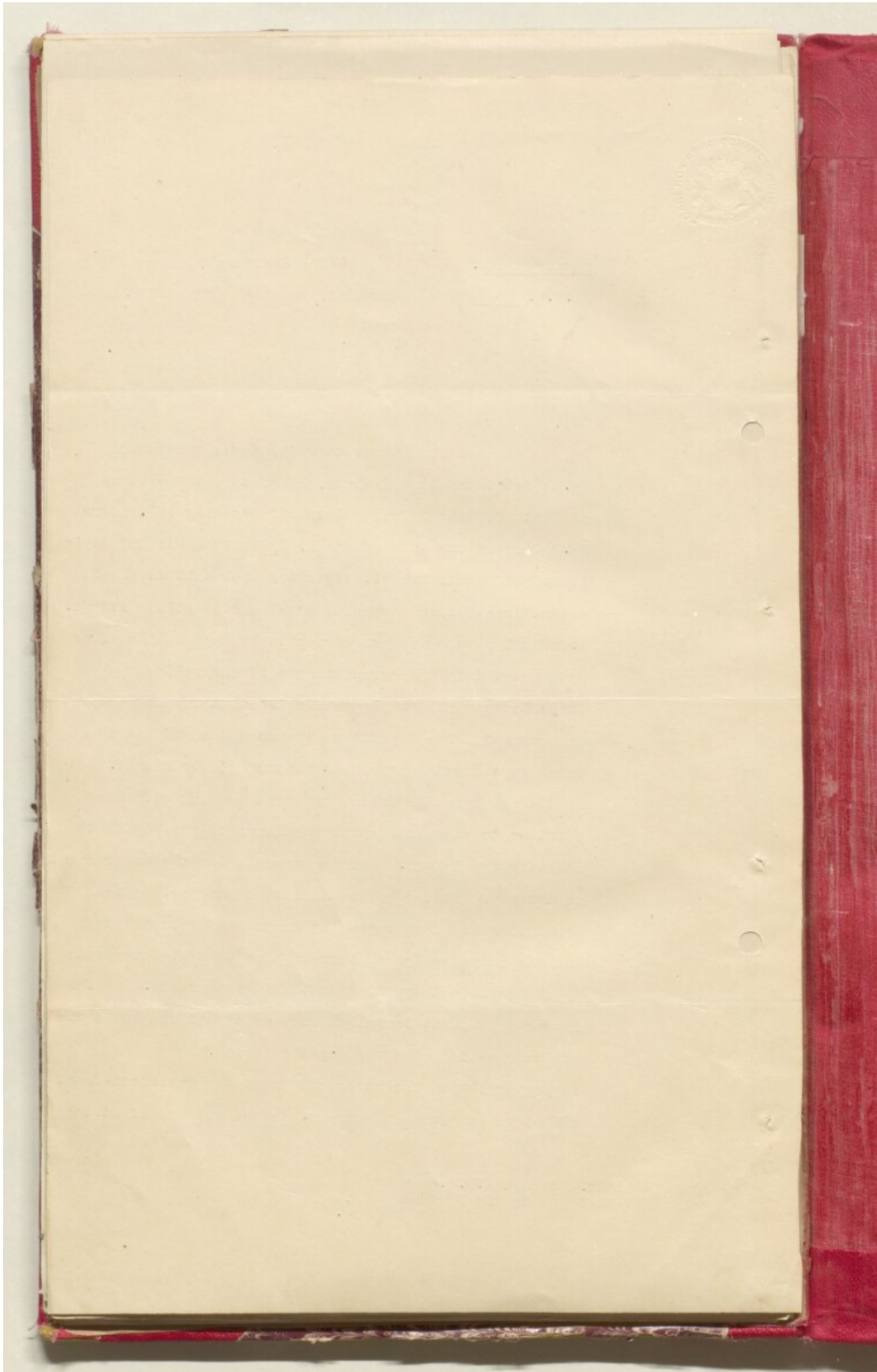
Sir, *Sup. Q.*

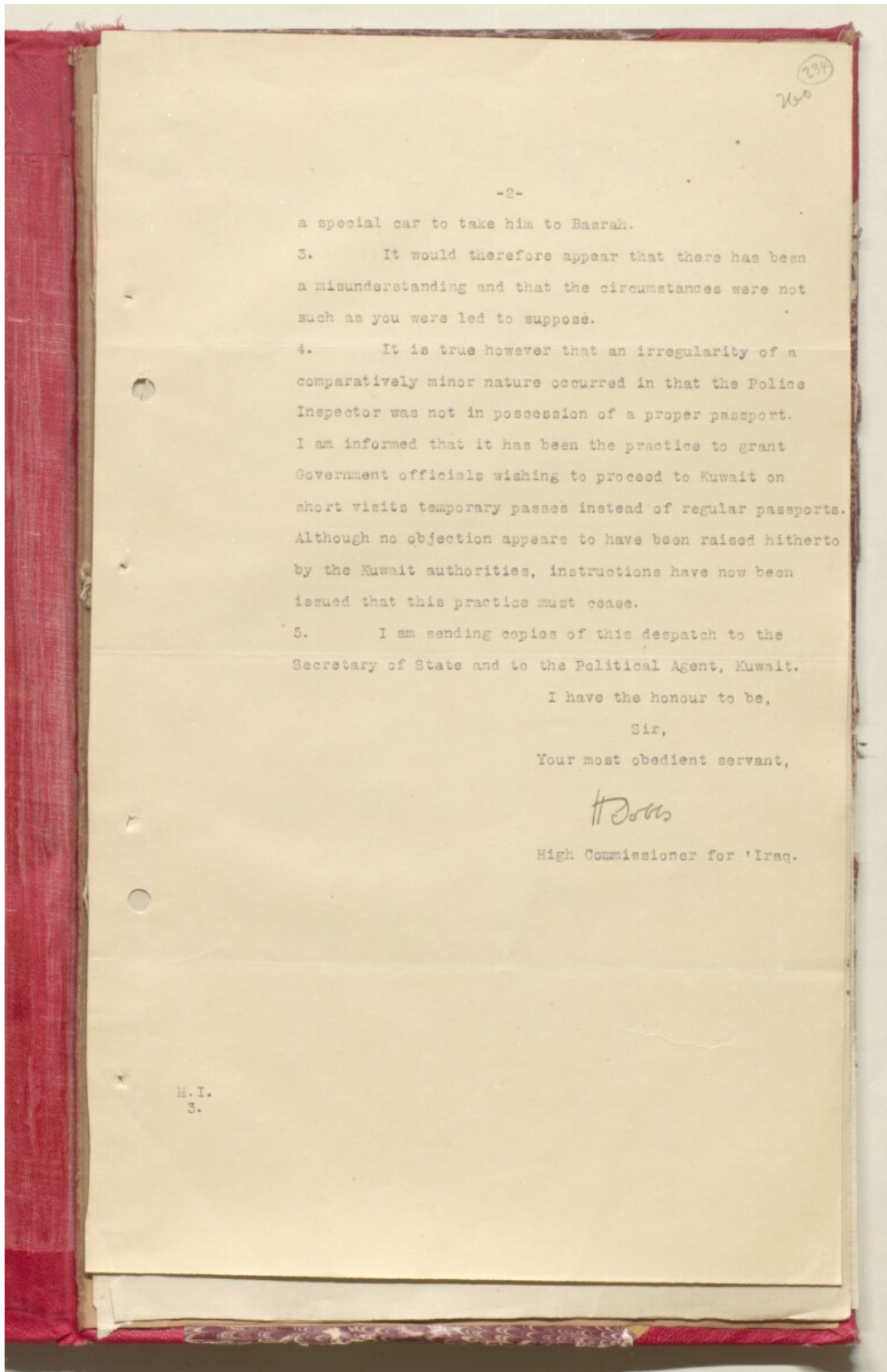
I have the honour to refer to your despatch No. 14 dated the 5th of April, 1928, to the Secretary of State for the Colonies forwarding a copy of telegram No. 227 dated the 30th of March, 1928, from His Majesty's Political Agent, Kuwait, regarding the visit to Kuwait of an 'Iraq Police Inspector named Abdul Mutlib Effendi.

2. I have caused enquiries to be made of the 'Iraq Government into the circumstances of the Police Inspector's visit and I am informed that the Inspector was granted three days leave to proceed to Kuwait in order to collect a private debt owed to his father. As he did not know the debtor by sight he took with him a friend to whom the debtor was known to assist him to identify the latter. This accounts for the endorsement on the pass granted by the Assistant Passport Officer permitting him to "proceed to Kuwait and return with one man only", which appears to have been misinterpreted by the Political Agent, Kuwait and by yourself. The Inspector did not travel on duty or in uniform and there was no question of arresting the debtor. The Inspector obeyed the instructions of the Political Agent to return to 'Iraq and was put to the expense of hiring

a

The Hon'ble Lieut.-Colonel L.B.H. Haworth,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
Bushire.





-2-

a special car to take him to Basrah.

3. It would therefore appear that there has been a misunderstanding and that the circumstances were not such as you were led to suppose.

4. It is true however that an irregularity of a comparatively minor nature occurred in that the Police Inspector was not in possession of a proper passport. I am informed that it has been the practice to grant Government officials wishing to proceed to Kuwait on short visits temporary passes instead of regular passports. Although no objection appears to have been raised hitherto by the Kuwait authorities, instructions have now been issued that this practice must cease.

5. I am sending copies of this despatch to the Secretary of State and to the Political Agent, Kuwait.

I have the honour to be,

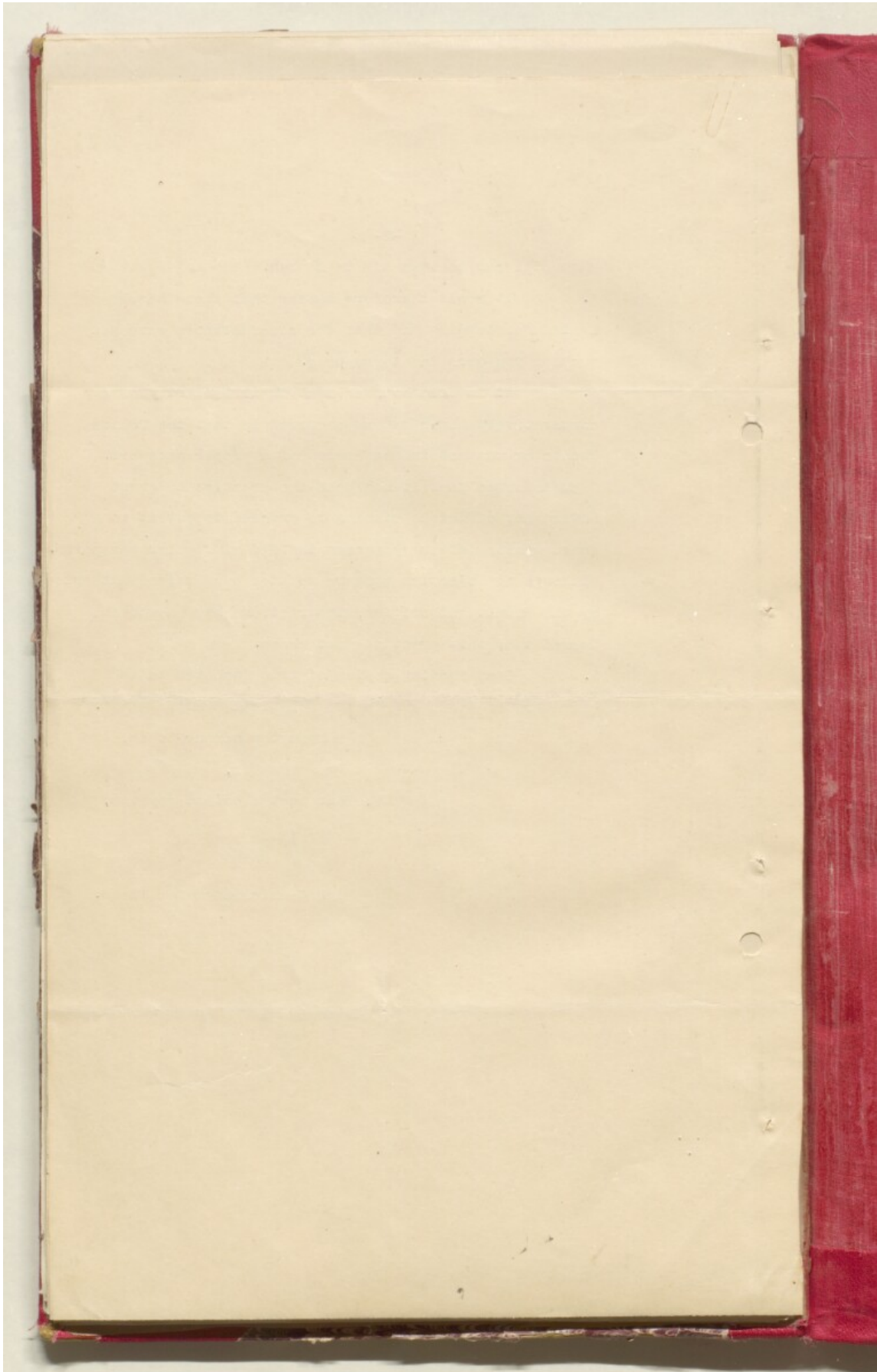
Sir,

Your most obedient servant,

H. Jones

High Commissioner for Iraq.

M. I.
3.





53/32
CONFIDENTIAL.

No. 352-S. Political Agency, Kuwait.
12th May 1928.

Reg. No. 523
Date 15.5.28.
CONFIDENTIAL RECORDS.

To
The Hon'ble the Political Resident in the Persian Gulf,
B U S H I R E .

'Iraq Police Inspector's visit to Kuwait.

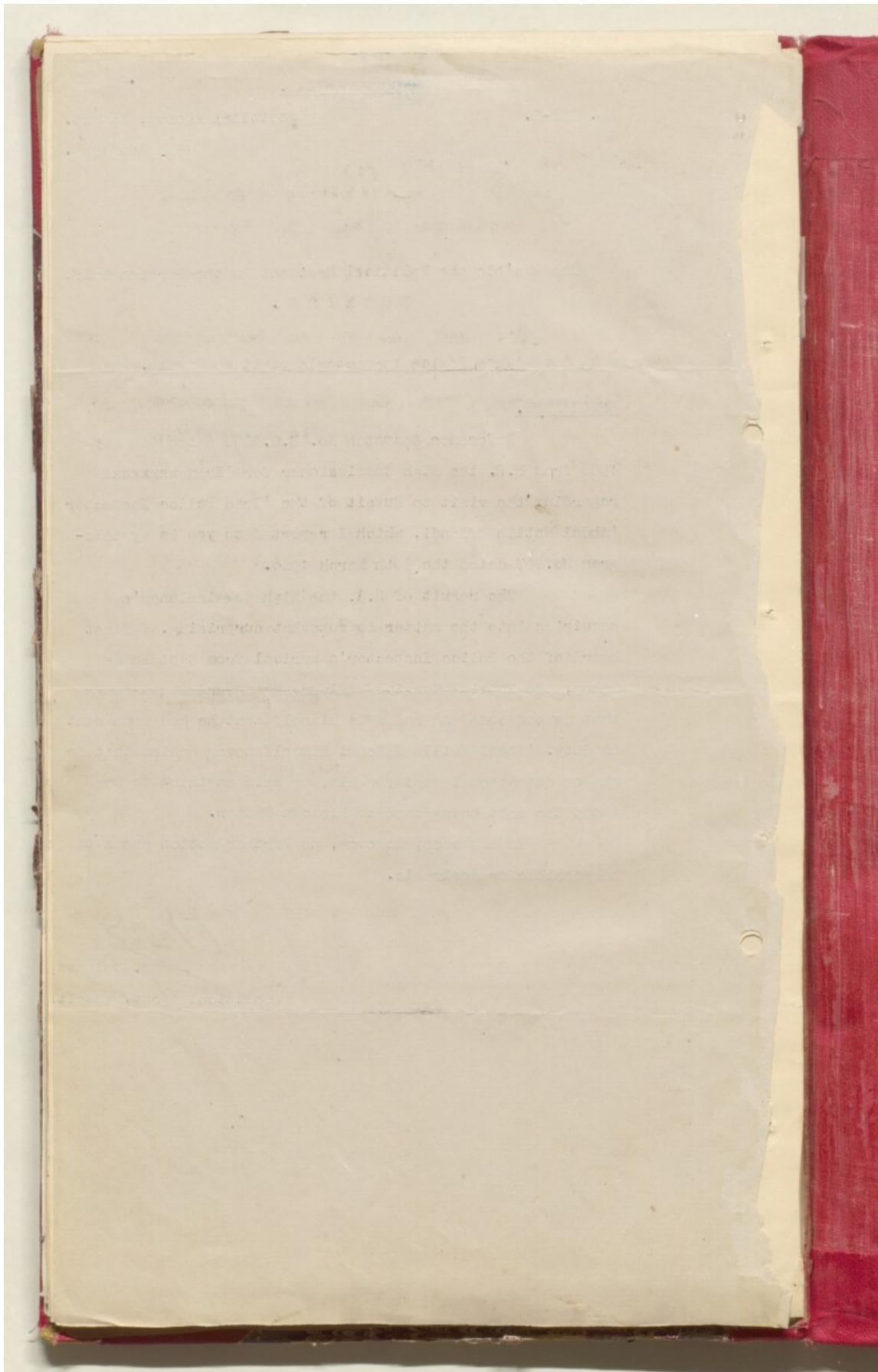
MEMORANDUM.

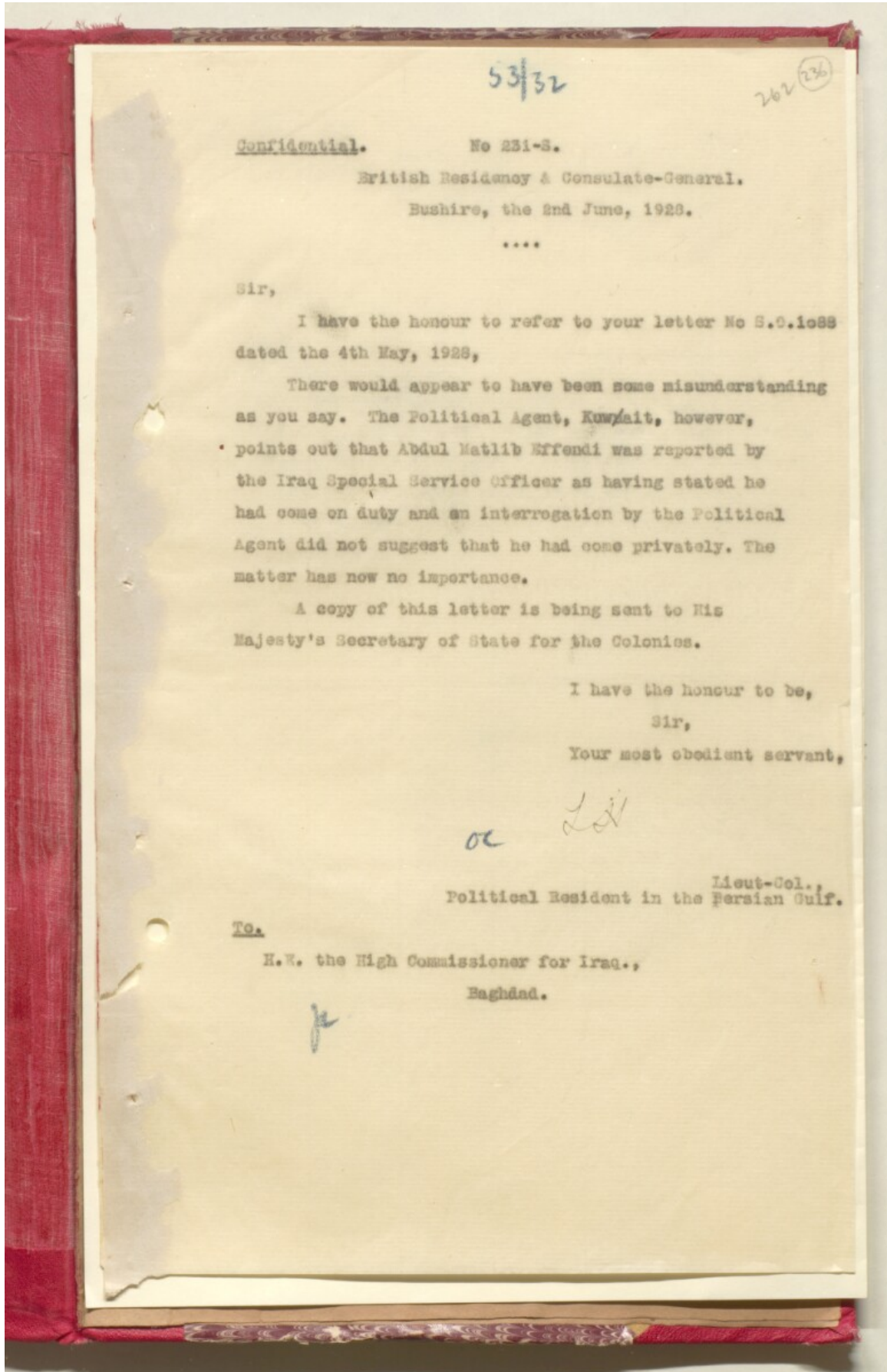
Reference despatch No. S.O.1088 dated 4th May 1928 from H.E. the High Commissioner for 'Iraq ~~regarding~~ regarding the visit to Kuwait of the 'Iraq Police Inspector, 'Abdul Mutlib Effendi, which I reported to you in my telegram No.297 dated the 30th March 1928.

The result of H.E. the High Commissioner's enquiries into the matter is somewhat surprising. I first heard of the Police Inspector's arrival from Captain de Gaury, the Special Service Officer, who heard in the town that he had come and had said himself that he had been sent on duty. 'Abdul Mutlib Effendi himself never denied that he was on duty when I sent for him, or said anything to me about the debt being owed to his own father.

In any case, however, no further action seems to be possible or desirable.

J.C. Morris
Lt.-Colonel,
Political Agent, Kuwait.





Confidential.

No 231-S.

British Residency & Consulate-General.

Bushire, the 2nd June, 1928.

....

Sir,

I have the honour to refer to your letter No S.O.1088 dated the 4th May, 1928,

There would appear to have been some misunderstanding as you say. The Political Agent, Kuwait, however, points out that Abdul Matlib Effendi was reported by the Iraq Special Service Officer as having stated he had come on duty and an interrogation by the Political Agent did not suggest that he had come privately. The matter has now no importance.

A copy of this letter is being sent to His Majesty's Secretary of State for the Colonies.

I have the honour to be,

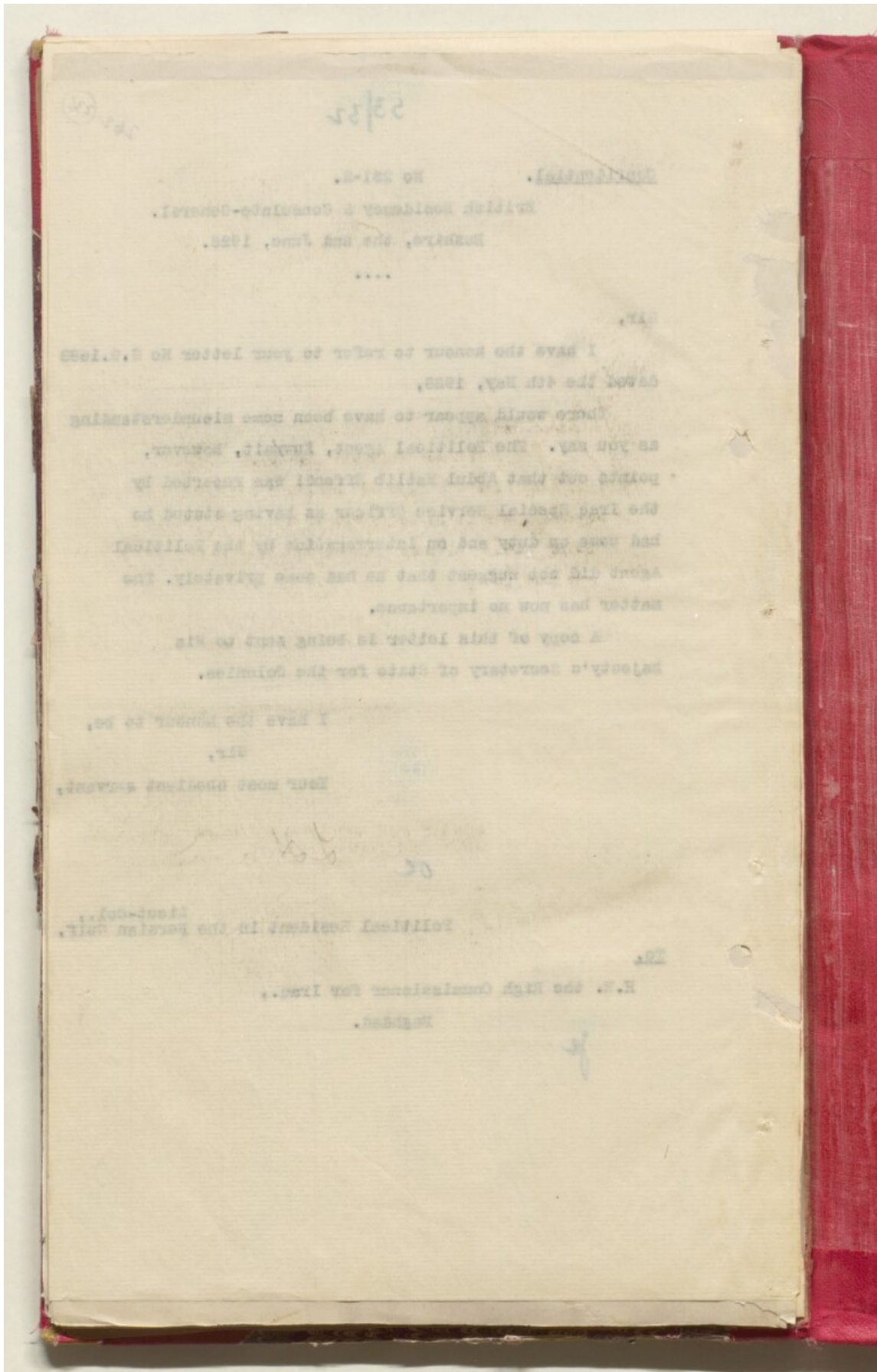
Sir,

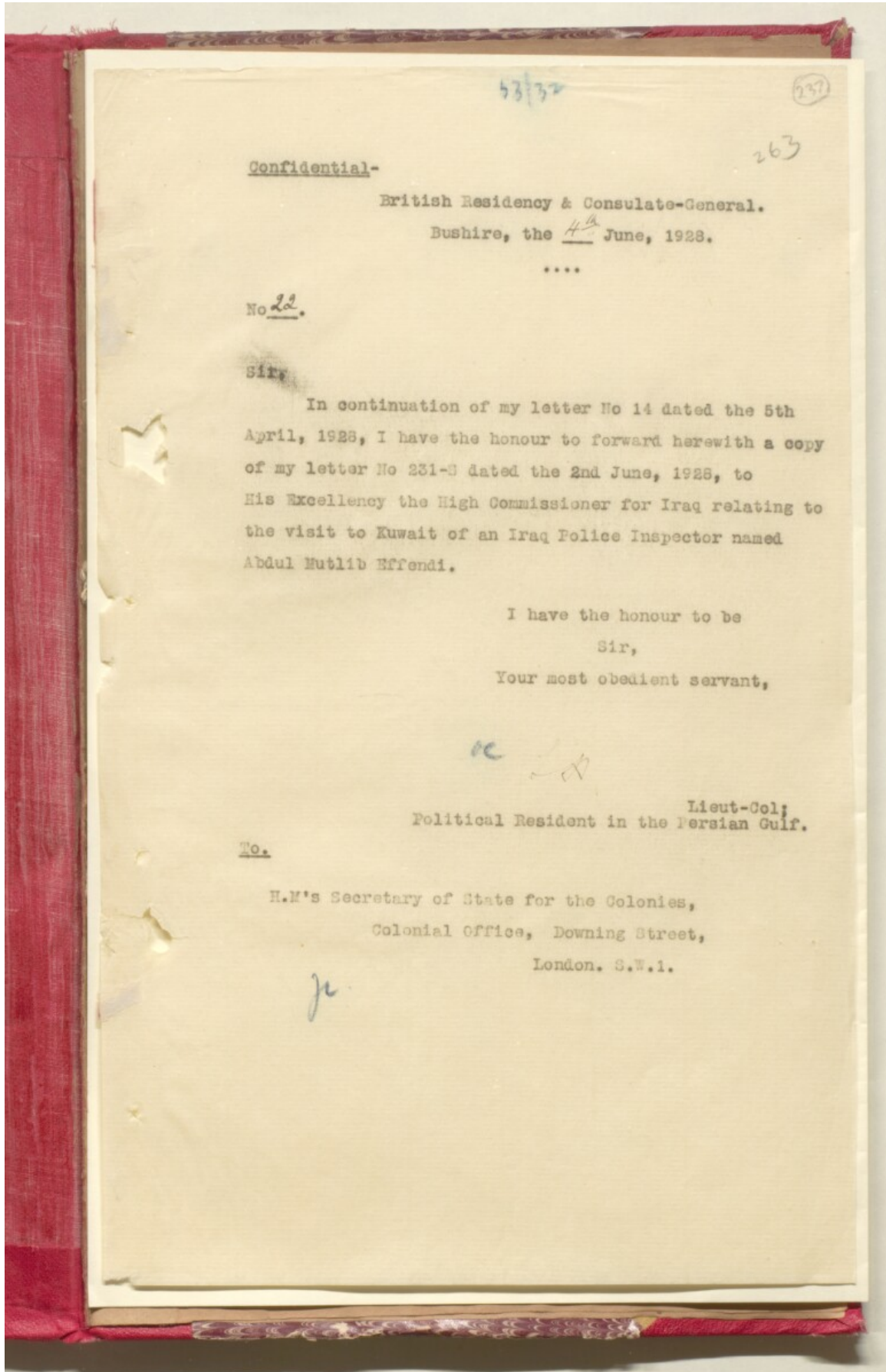
Your most obedient servant,

Lieut-Col.,
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To.

H.W. the High Commissioner for Iraq.,
Baghdad.





Confidential-

British Residency & Consulate-General.

Bushire, the 4th June, 1928.

....

No 22.

Sir,

In continuation of my letter No 14 dated the 5th April, 1928, I have the honour to forward herewith a copy of my letter No 231-S dated the 2nd June, 1928, to His Excellency the High Commissioner for Iraq relating to the visit to Kuwait of an Iraq Police Inspector named Abdul Mutlib Effendi.

I have the honour to be

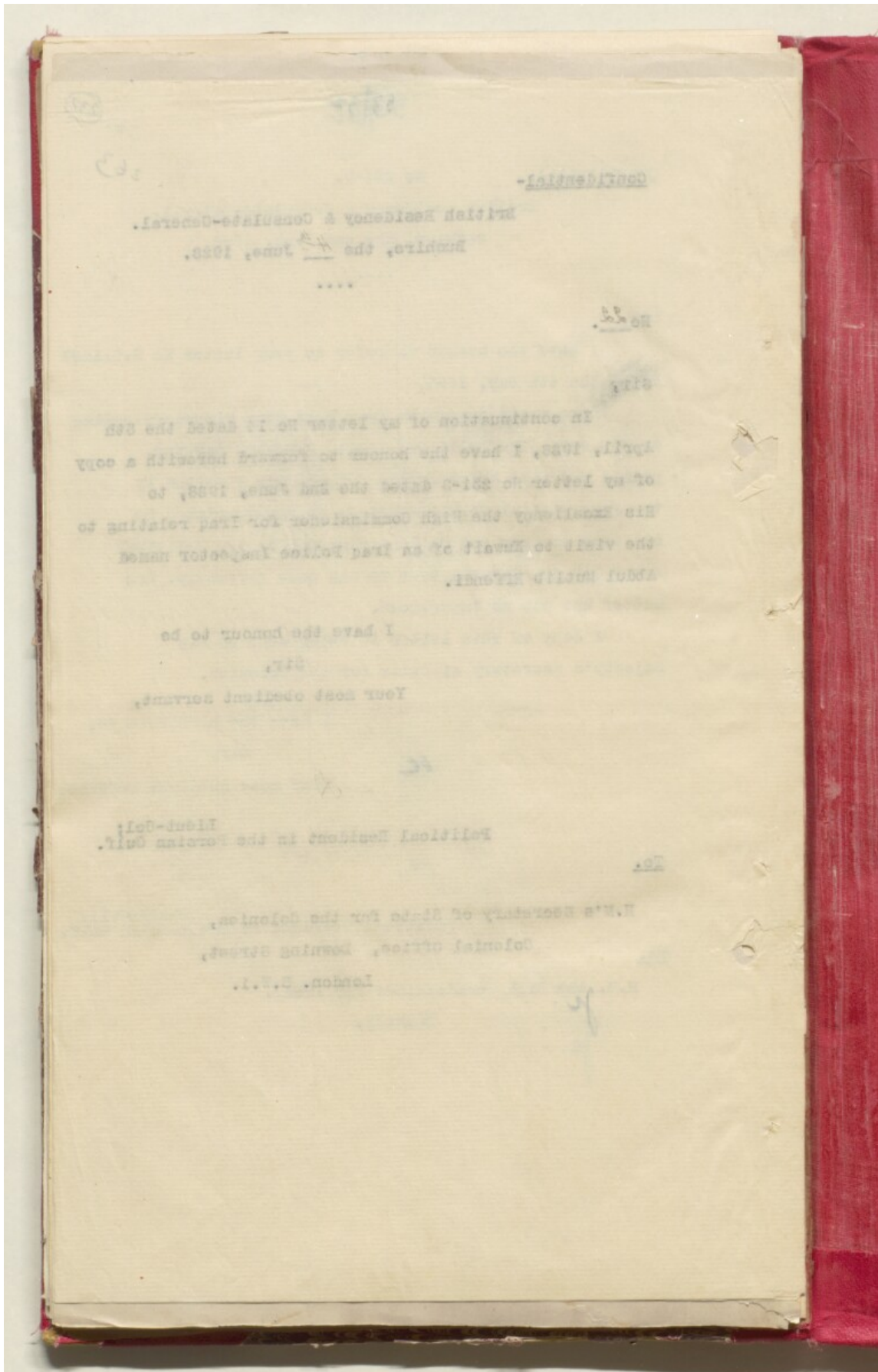
Sir,

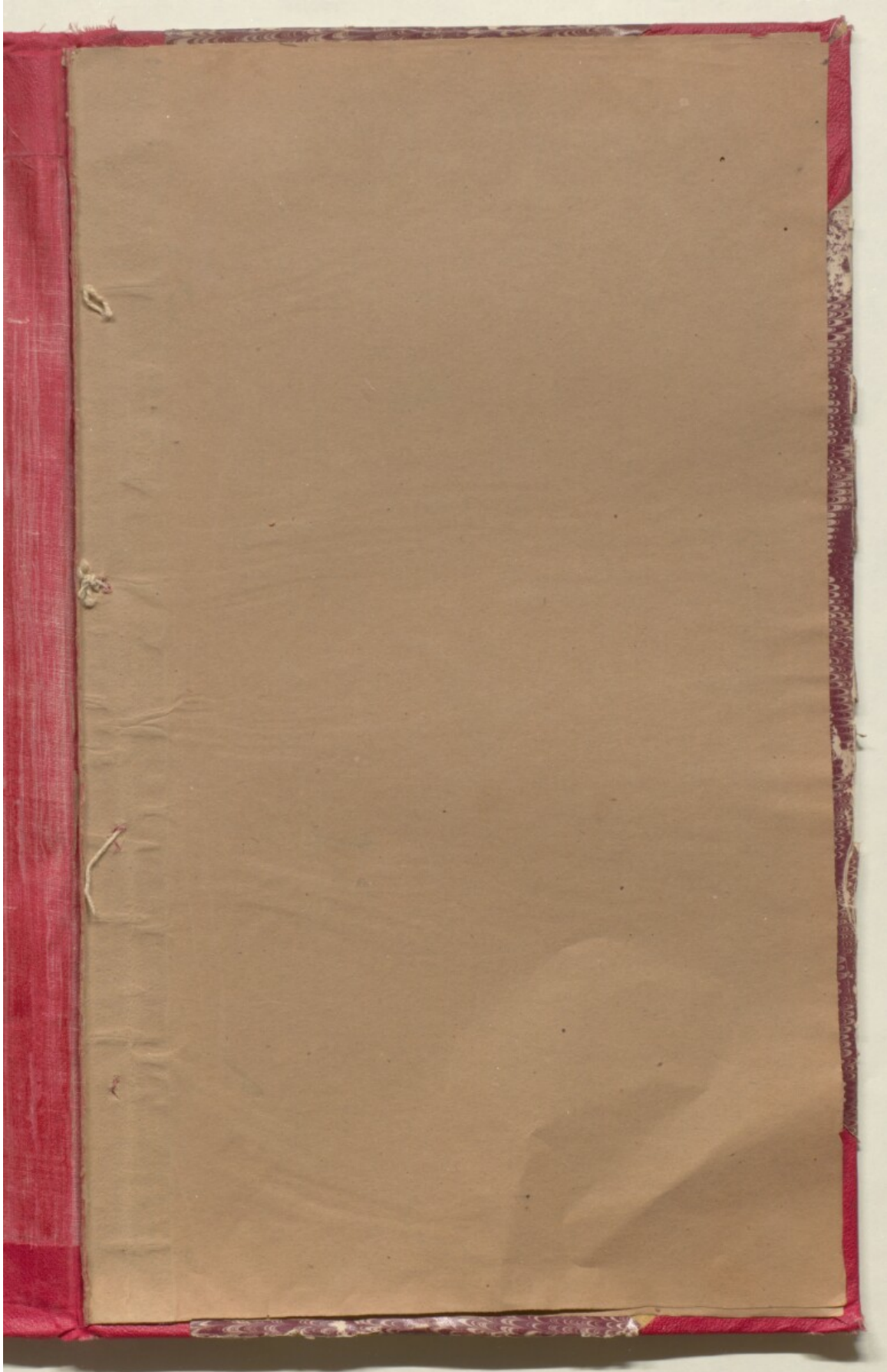
Your most obedient servant,

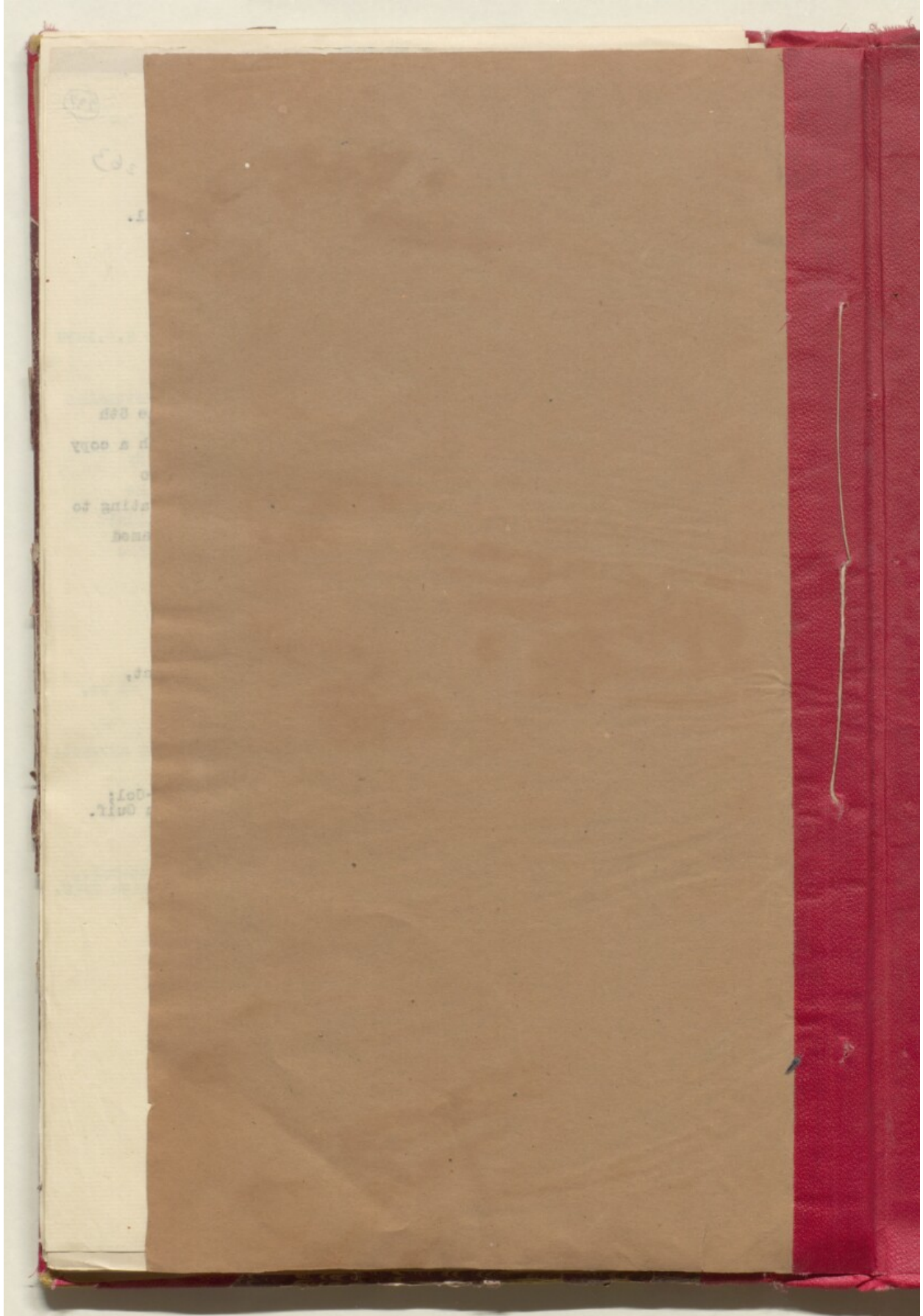
Lieut-Col;
Political Resident in the Persian Gulf.

To.

H.M.'s Secretary of State for the Colonies,
Colonial Office, Downing Street,
London. S.W.1.









"ملف (D 53 53/32 III) مسائل متنوعة خاصة بالكويت" [خلفي-داخلي]
(٤٨٦/٤٨٦)

